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History  
of  
Bristol, Vermont

1762 - 1980

third edition





# History of Bristol, Vermont

1762-1980

Compiled by  
**OUTLOOK CLUB OF BRISTOL, VERMONT**  
in cooperation with  
Bristol Historical Society

Third Edition—1980

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## DEDICATION

We would like to dedicate this 1980 edition to the spirit  
of the Bristol Inn, a gracious place for gracious living.

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## BRISTOL

In the shadow of two low mountains, which stand like sentinels on the south and east, lies a little village. One mountain has its foot in the very edge of the town, the other stretches away across a shining river. The last is more beautiful; but the first, rising like a sturdy protector, with its homely scarred summit has a certain quality of belonging there. On the west, long, rolling plains sweep away to Lake Champlain, and on the north the countryside is dotted with miniature lakes and ponds.

But it is not the mountains, not the river, nor the rolling plains and the little ponds that make my village lovely; it is the people — progressive men and women who have lived their lives to the best of their ability and now are striving to give their sons and daughters all that life can offer. A feeling of neighborliness and good fellowship pervades the very atmosphere. None are very wealthy and none very poor, and so, for most of them, life flows on smoothly and satisfyingly.

Often they dip into the whirl of a big city, enjoy it, are thrilled by its efficiency; but when the sunset sends one last glow of golden light across the valley like a benediction, when neighbors talk from porch to porch secure in the thought of a day's work well done, then my little village seems the only place where life is real.

by Margaret Levarn

Miss Margaret Levarn (now Mrs. Margaret Siska) spent her early years in Bristol. She moved to Burlington in 1925 and graduated from Mount St. Mary's Academy there in 1931. Miss Levarn's bit of prose appeared in the "Mount St. Mary Journal" that year. It was felt that what was said about Bristol about fifty years ago still holds true today.

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### HOW THIS BOOK CAME TO BE

The Second Edition of the *History of Bristol, Vermont* relates the events which first prompted the Outlook Club of Bristol to prepare a history of the town. The following is quoted from pages 28 to 30 of the Second Edition:

“In 1941, Bristol, Vermont, was the first of the seventeen Bristols in the United States to contribute aid to the people of the maternal city of Bristol, England which had been severely bombed. A sum of \$700 was collected and sent. The Lord Mayor of Bristol, England responded most kindly to this aid, by making a radio broadcast thanking us. Because of his interest in us, a scrap book history of all the informative data of the town was written by Merritt Parmelee Allen, and photographs by George N. Lathrop were sent to the mother city. Since the war years, we have had letters, books and photos of Bristol, England. Many of these are in the library.

“It was after the work of getting the scrap book history that the Outlook Club decided to publish a bound edition of Bristol history from the years 1762 to 1940.”

In 1959, a second, soft-cover edition of the history was printed, updating the information from the 1940 edition.

About 1971, the women of the Outlook Club began discussing a third edition. In 1975, work was seriously initiated to produce a Bicentennial Edition of the history. In spite of all the interest, it was not until the winter of 1977-78 that this present edition began.

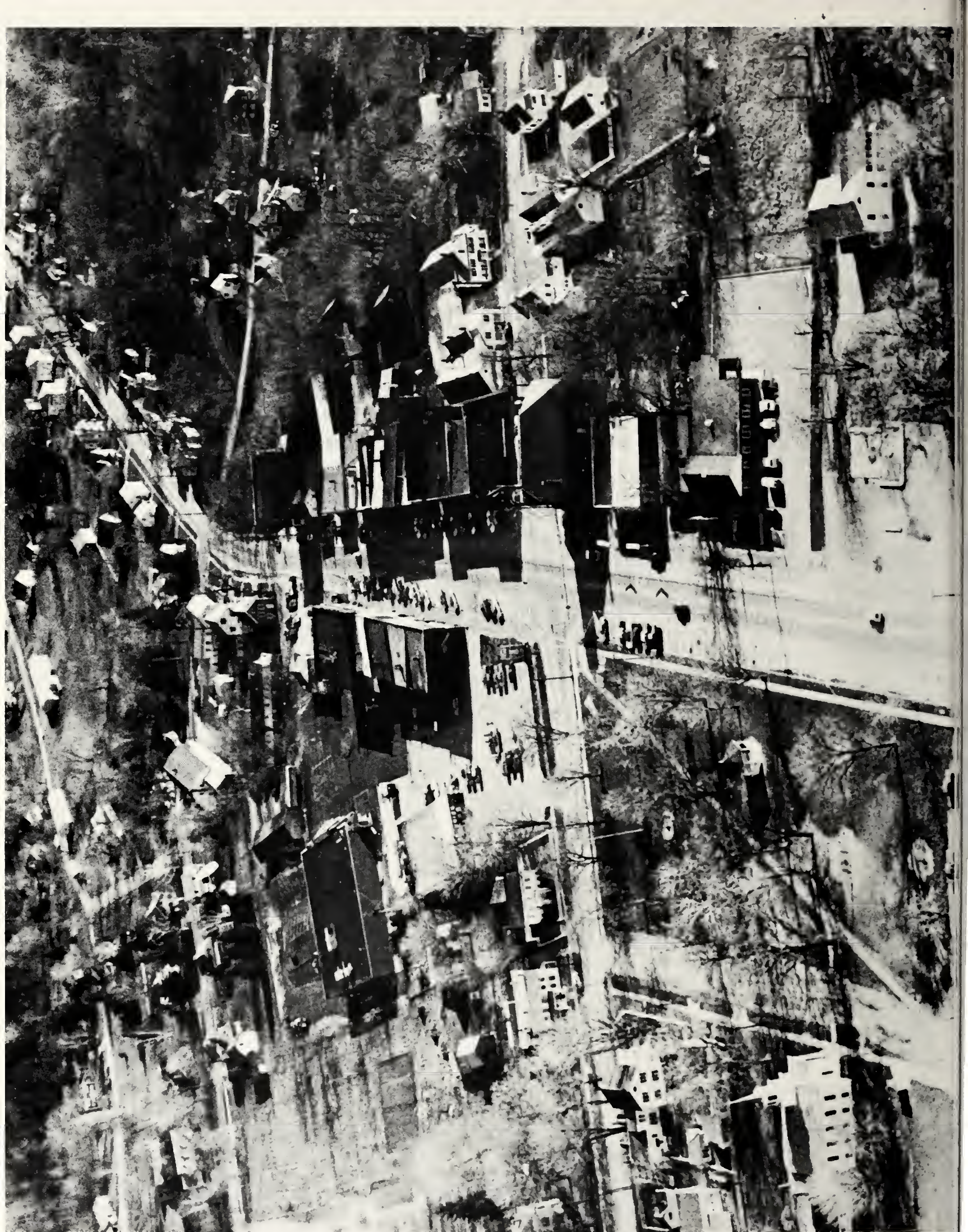
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# I Early History

The Town of Bristol, Vermont, was chartered by the Governor of New Hampshire, Benning Wentworth, on June 26, 1762. The charter was granted to Samuel Averill and sixty-three associates in the name of Pocock, in honor of a distinguished English admiral of that name. The original charter contained a grant of twenty-three-thousand-six-hundred acres with the usual reservations of land for the governor, the support of the Gospel, the Glebe right, the minister lot, and the schools. The name was changed from Pocock to Bristol, by an act of the legislature on October 21, 1789, but no reason can be found in town or state papers for this change. It is quite possible that the new name was chosen after the town of that name in Connecticut, for some of the early settlers came from Connecticut.

By an act of the Legislature passed November 18, 1824, about four-thousand-four-hundred acres of land originally contained within the charter bounds in the east part of the Town of Bristol was set off and annexed to the Town of Lincoln. This left about nineteen-thousand-two-hundred acres of land in Bristol.

The Town of Bristol is situated in the northeastern part of Addison County, bounded on the north by Monkton and Starksboro, on the east by Starksboro and Lincoln, on the south by Middlebury, and on the west by New Haven. On the eastern side, running the entire length of the town is a spur of the Green Mountains composed of three separate mountains known locally as Hogback Mountain, South Mountain and Elephant Mountain. The only stream of importance in the town is the New Haven River which enters Bristol on the northeast from Lincoln and follows a southwest course into New Haven. Two small streams, both tributaries of the New Haven River are O'Brian Brook in the southern part of town and Baldwin's Creek in the northern part. There is a small pond in the northern part of Bristol, extending into Monkton, known as Lake Winona or Bristol Pond, which is of interest to fishermen.

The first settlement in Bristol was begun in 1786 by Samuel Stewart and Eden Johnson whose wives were sisters. The two families came together from Skenesboro (now Whitehall), New York. Mr. Johnson traveled by land to drive the cattle, while the rest traveled as far as Vergennes by boat. They erected the first building in town, a log cabin which they occupied jointly until Mr. Stewart could build another one for his family. Stewart's daughter, Polly, was the first white child born in Bristol.

Although the Stewart and Johnson families are considered the first permanent settlers, when a committee of proprietors surveyed the town in 1785, they met a man who gave his name as John Brodt and said he had lived in the place for twelve years since he fled from New York State as a fugitive. A pardon was secured for him and he returned to New York, leaving no mark of his stay in Bristol. He had erected only a crude shelter for himself and cleared no land other than a small patch where he raised a few vegetables.

The first male child born in Bristol was Horace Griswold, son of Benjamin Griswold. The first marriage was that of Samuel Brooks and Betsy Rorapough, an Indian woman, which took place March 16, 1791.

According to the restrictions of the charter, as soon as fifty families had settled in the town they would be allowed to hold a meeting and organize. Each grantee of land was required, within a reasonable length of time, to cultivate five out of every fifty acres, live on it, and improve it. The first proprietors' meeting on record was held at the home of Benjamin Griswold in Pocock, March 3, 1788. Miles Bradley was chosen Moderator, and Henry McLaughlin, Proprietors' Clerk. The original survey of the town made in 1785 was reported and accepted and a tax of two dollars was laid on each proprietor's right, to pay the expenses of surveying and laying out roads and bridges. A committee consisting of Timothy Rogers, Miles Bradley, Justin Allen, Cyprian Eastman, and Henry McLaughlin was chosen to lay out and care for the

highways and bridges. The meeting was adjourned until May 13, when the proprietors were to meet at the home of Benjamin Paine in Addison. At this meeting it was voted to lay out ninety acres to each right as the first division.

It is evident that meetings were held prior to the one on March 3, 1788, for at that meeting, the report of the surveyors, who were chosen in 1784 or 1785, was given. The "Munsill Papers," as printed in *The Early History of Bristol, Vermont* state that although no records have been found, a surveyors' committee, comprised of John Willard, Jonathan Hoyt, and Miles Bradley was appointed by the proprietors at a meeting held in Canaan, Connecticut, in 1784. Some early deeds show this survey or first division, as one-hundred-twenty acres per lot. Following the meeting of the proprietors on May 13, 1788, a new first division was made consisting of ninety acres per lot. Four more divisions followed: a second division of one-hundred-ten acres; third division of one hundred acres; fourth division of fifty acres; and twenty acres to the fifth division now regarded as the legal division of land among the original proprietors of Bristol. This fifth and final division was made in the year 1808, according to the proprietors' minutes.

The first town meeting was held in Bristol at the home of Justin Allen, March 2, 1789. Henry McLaughlin was chosen Moderator and Town Clerk; Amos Scott, Treasurer; Justin Allen, Constable; Cyprian Eastman, Samuel Stewart, and Robert Dunshee, Selectmen. The second annual meeting was held March 23, 1790, and a more complete list of town officers was chosen: Moderator, Jeremiah Burroughs; Town Clerk, Samuel Renne; Treasurer, Cyprian Eastman; Selectmen, Cyprian Eastman, Henry McLaughlin, and Gurdon Munsill; Listers, Robert Dunshee, Amos Scott, and Timothy Allen; Constable, Henry McLaughlin. They also chose a tax collector, leather sealer, grand juror, pound keeper, tythingman, two haywards, three fence viewers, three highway surveyors, and a sealer of weights and measures.



The meetings of the original proprietors were suspended after the first Saturday of July, 1815. The state laws declared that "whenever the proprietors of any town shall neglect to hold a proprietors' meeting for the term of ten years, all the proprietors' records and papers shall be turned over to the Town Clerk who shall be forever thereafter proprietors' clerk." Accordingly, all the proprietors' records and papers were turned over to the Town Clerk.

The information in this article is drawn from *The Early History of Bristol, Vermont* published in 1979 by the Bristol Historical Society. The book includes the Honorable Harvey Munsill, Esq. manuscript presumably written during the early part of the nineteenth century.

The following is quoted intact from *A Gazetteer of the State of Vermont* by Zadock Thompson, A.B., published by E.P. Walton (printer) in Montpelier, Vermont, 1824. It is included for its informative historical content.

"Bristol, a post town in the north-eastern part of Addison county, in Latitude 44° 7' and Longitude 3° 55'\*, is bounded north by Monkton and Starksborough, east by Lincoln and Starksborough, south by Middlebury and Avery's Gore and west by New-Haven. It is 25 miles south-west from Montpelier, and the same distance south-east from Burlington. It was chartered to Samuel Averill and his associates, by the name of Pocock, June 26, 1762, and contains about 26,000 acres. The settlement of this town was commenced, immediately after the Revolutionary War, by Benjamin Griswold, Cyprian Eastman, Robert Dunshee, Justus Allen, Samuel Brooks and others. The town was organized March 2, 1789, and Henry McLaughlin was first Town clerk. The religious denominations are, Baptists, Congregationalists and Methodists. The Reverend Mr. Sterns was ordained here about the year 1818, and continued a few years. The Reverend Mr. Ware, a Congregationalist, preaches half the time. The Baptists and Methodists are without preachers, but are generally supplied with preaching.

There are two meetinghouses, both erected in 1819; one belongs to the Methodists, and the other was built by the Congregationalists and Baptists together, and belongs equally to each. The latter is a commodious and handsome building. The epidemic of 1812 prevailed here, but was not very mortal. The physicians are Joseph Needham and Oren Smith. About one third of this town lies entirely west of the Green Mountains, and is very level, rich and productive. The remainder of the town is broken and a considerable part incapable of cultivation. A considerable mountain extends through the town from north to south. That part of it north of the New-Haven River, is called the Hog Back, and that on the south is called South Mountain. A part of the latter has been very much infested with rattle snakes; their numbers, are however, yearly diminishing. New-Haven River, enters this town from the east, and, before it reaches the centre of the town, receives Baldwin and Lewis Creeks. It runs off to the west into New-Haven. There are three natural ponds here; the largest, called Bristol Pond, is a mile and a half long and three fourths of a mile wide. In the west part of the town is a spring which is slightly medicinal and is sometimes visited. There is a bed of iron ore in the part of the town next to Monkton, and there have been several forges here, but there is now only one which does much business. Most of the ore which is wrought here, is brought from Monkton and from a bed on the west side of the lake, a little north of Crown Point. The village is near the centre of the town, upon New-Haven River, immediately after it passes between the Hog Back and South Mountain. It contains thirty seven dwellinghouses, two meeting houses, two school houses and a variety of mills, shops, etc. It is ten miles from Vergennes and eleven from Middlebury. There are in town nine school districts, seven school houses, two grist mills, two saw mills, two fulling mills, two carding machines, two stores, two distilleries, two tanneries and one tavern. Population 1051. In 1823 there were two hundred and eight horses and eleven hundred cattle in the town."

## Indians

There is abundant evidence that at some time Indians made Bristol their home. When the first settlement was made in Bristol in 1786, there were discovered many small places which had the appearance of having been cleared and afterwards grown up and covered with a second growth of timber, grass, and weeds. In these places, there was found a profusion of arrow points and spear heads. Gouges and pestles were also found. One unusual object discovered in one of these clearings was a stone resembling a rolling pin. Later settlers questioned an old Indian nearly one hundred years of age about the use of this particular instrument and he told them it had been used in dressing deer. This object is now in the Sheldon Museum in Middlebury. A fifteen-inch gouge, also shown to this old Indian was said to be used in dressing deer; the gouge is now in a Hartford, Connecticut museum.

At one particular place, there was evidence of the wholesale manufacture of arrow points as there were many perfect arrow heads, some only partly finished, and a large quantity of broken fragments. The Rev. C.F. Muzzy, a graduate of Middlebury College in 1833, examined some of these stones and stated that they were formed from quartz rock, slate, and feldspar, all indigenous to this section of the country. Phillip E. Tucker of Vergennes, a collector of Indian relics, stated he had some spearheads in his collection made of black jasper. It was his impression that the spears found in this vicinity were used to spear fish, not human beings.

After the English arrived in this section of the country, the Indians secured iron tomahawks; they also got firearms from the French.

The old Indian questioned about the relics found around Bristol Pond and other places in this vicinity stated he had never used a stone arrowhead or spearhead, but had heard of others possessing them. He said he had heard discussions about how these stone implements were made, but he had never seen any of them used. He said he had always, even in his youth, used a steel arrow point made in the same shape as

\*Modern geographical information indicates longitude is 73° 05.'



the stone arrow point. So it must be presumed that the very first settlers of Bristol were here even before the Indians who used the steel arrow point.

### The Little Notch

The section known as the "Little Notch" is supposed to have derived its name from the fact that it is the smaller of two notches or clefts in the mountain range which extends through the entire length of the town of Bristol in a north and south direction. The Little Notch supplies the outlet for the watershed of the entire southeastern corner of the town, and covers approximately three thousand acres.

Five small streams from different directions join together forming what is known as the Notch Brook. This is the same brook which is called "O'Brian Brook" in the early records of Bristol, after the three O'Brian brothers who operated a mill on the stream. A body of water known as Gilmore Pond is situated about one and a quarter miles easterly from the main highway leading through the Little Notch. This pond formed by springs covers some ten acres, with a depth of three feet and a black muddy bottom. The outlet of this pond is one of the five streams that form the Notch Brook. The name is supposed to have been derived from a man by the name of Gilmore who at an early period had a mill about fifty rods downstream from the outlet. Decayed timber of the old flume and log dam can still be seen.

The first road leading to the "Notch" left the main highway near the school house in South Bristol, turning to the east and following up the westerly side of the Notch Brook. In the year 1859, the present highway leading up the easterly side of the Notch Brook was opened for use affording not only a better grade but also a connection with the road leading south from Bristol Village along the foot of the mountain, this section having been settled for some time. Late in the year of 1860, the road was completed over the mountain to the southern part of the town of Lincoln. At the point where the road crosses the divide into Lincoln, the altitude is one-

thousand-eight-hundred-ninety-nine feet above sea level.

The date of the first settlement in the "Little Notch" is unknown, but it would seem that lumbering was the occupation that attracted people to this locality. Records show that on November 11, 1831, Rufus Barnard sold to Curtis ten acres off the south end of lot No. 6 for a mill site. This site was at the point where the five brooks unite and for one hundred years following, a mill was in operation there. But nothing in the lumber industry of importance was established until the late 1860's when Eastman and Durfee built a sawmill for the manufacture of lumber, clapboards, and butter tubs which were in great demand at that time. The mill was soon destroyed by fire, thus ending the first real attempt at a lumber industry in the Little Notch.

In 1879, Joseph Jimmo built a lumber mill below the Eastman site which he operated for a few years. In the summer of 1880, Noah Lathrop and H.L. Parmelee purchased Mr. Eastman's mill site, together with two houses, a blacksmith shop and a barn. They then erected another mill on this site. In 1885, Mr. Lathrop bought Mr. Parmelee's interest in the firm. In 1903, the mill burned and was immediately rebuilt. That year Clarence Lathrop entered the firm which was known thereafter as N. Lathrop and Son. It grew to be the largest lumber concern in Addison County, turning out dressed lumber, shingles, and clapboards. The business continued until 1925 when all the timber of commercial value had been cut in this section.

Among the early settlers living in log houses in the decades 1850—1880, were families of the following names: Harris, Peckham, Cormier, Cousino, Scarbough, Carpenter, Eubar, Odette, Jimmo, Parmelee, Booska, Pecott, Sears, Swinyer, Vincent, Rivers.

At first small clearings were established and log houses erected to be followed by frame houses. Farming on a small scale was attempted but the land was so uneven and the soil so rocky that it never proved successful. Many of the settlers turned to lumbering, selling their logs to the mill

owners, while others converted their hardwood into charcoal which they sold to the owners of forges in Bristol. There was a very good market for charcoal around 1850.

In 1879, school district Number Nine was organized and a school building was erected. The school had an attendance of fourteen pupils. As the lumber industry increased, the population became larger, and in the school year 1887-88 there was an attendance at the school of fifty pupils, all taught by one teacher. About 1900, a two-room school was built and for approximately ten years, two teachers were employed. In the spring of 1938, the school was discontinued as there were not enough pupils to maintain it longer.

After N. Lathrop and Son discontinued their lumber business in 1925, the population decreased rapidly. Many of the homesteads were sold for camps as it became a very good deer and bear hunting ground. The school house was moved by Roy Jimmo onto Bristol Flats for a home. An excavation was made in the early 1900's which is filled from the source of a spring from the east base of Elephant Mountain. This land was sold to the Middlebury Water Works with a considerable amount of acreage by Noah Lathrop.

The foregoing account of Bristol Notch was written by Mrs. Clarence E. Lathrop for the First Edition of this history.

Today a large percentage of the growth of Bristol is occurring in the Notch. The area has naturally reforested in the past fifty years, and many new homes peer through the trees. A portion of the land in the Notch is under the control of the Green Mountain National Forest and was the site of the Bristol Cliffs Wilderness Controversy which is written up later in this book.



## II Manufacturing

Manufacturing in Bristol, as in any newly settled township, was limited to the wants of the inhabitants; therefore, the first mills to appear were sawmills, gristmills, and forges. The first gristmill on record is one which was built in 1792 by three brothers: John, William, and James O'Brian. This mill was built in the southern part of the town on the brook which now bears their name. The first sawmill was built by Amos Scott in 1791. Forges were built in various parts of town for making bar iron. The ore used was from Bristol, Monkton, and from Crown Point, New York, the latter being a heavier ore which was combined with other ores in smelting. The bar iron thus made was used in making plowshares, crowbars, cart and wagon tires, and many other tools and necessities. Some of the forges made more bar iron than was used in Bristol and neighboring towns were supplied with the product. There was an iron mine in the western part of the town. Rowland Robinson, in his book, *Three Rivers*, mentions this mine, and says that ore was taken from it to make the cannon balls used by the American fleet in the Battle of Lake Champlain, during the War of 1812.

A gristmill, built of stone in 1818, in the east part of the Village, was one of the four buildings which formed the foundation of the original Drake, Smith & Company. The upper part of the stone mill was used as a pillbox factory. Between one hundred and two hundred cords of white birch were used annually in manufacturing these boxes, and several people were employed here. A sawmill built sometime before 1836, formed the easterly boundary of the gristmill, and shortly after that, a tanbark mill was built close by. About 1845, the fourth building, a carding mill, was added to this group by Israel Eddy who later passed it on to his son-in-law, Sam Hasseltine, who abandoned the mill about 1880, and the machinery was then moved to Hinesburg. In the meantime, Solomon Drake, owner of both the gristmill and the tanbark mill, sold the former but retained control of the tannery which

he left to his son-in-law, Horace Farr. As late as 1865, leather was tanned in the mill, and a cobbler and harness shop was operated in the Farr house on East Street. In 1880, the carding mill building was sold to A. J. Eastman, who manufactured butter tubs there for five years. He then sold to T. S. Drake and E. W. Smith, who formed the original partnership of **Drake & Smith** for the manufacture of beekeepers' supplies. In the early 1880's, Drake & Smith acquired the rights to the gristmill, sawmill, and tanbark mill, thus consolidating the four factories into one plant.

About 1894, Charles McGee purchased several shares in the business. In 1935, in company with his son-in-law, Richard Smith, and grandson, Clement Smith, he bought the remaining shares from the heirs of E. W. Smith. The property for the first time came under the control of one family. After the death of Richard Smith and Charles McGee, the plant was operated by Mrs. Richard Smith. A thriving business was done in the manufacture of wooden boxes, silos, water tubs, door frames and sashes to order. The mill was closed down in June 1946, but reopened in February 1947, with John Cragen, Sr., as owner. In June 1951, the mill was sold to L. Stearns Gay, Jr., of Ludlow, Vermont. In December 1952, manufacturing was discontinued at this location; and eventually, in 1953, the plant on the New Haven River was dismantled. The story of Drake, Smith & Company continues with the story of the Bristol Novelty Company and the Vermont Box Company. The firm continues to this day.

In 1862, **Howden, Daniels & Company** incorporated and began the manufacture of doors, sashes, and blinds in a factory at the foot of Mill Hill. In 1867, David Bosworth bought Daniels' interest and the firm became known as **Howden, Bosworth & Company**. Competition in the manufacture of doors and blinds was too keen for the company to be very successful, and a change was made after the flood of 1869 had caused some damage to the plant. At this time, they decided to

manufacture caskets and the first one made by the firm was put on the market in 1870. In 1877, the name was changed to the **Bristol Manufacturing Company**, known for a number of years as one of the largest casket manufacturing concerns in the country.

The following is quoted from a taped interview of Bernard Bosworth, done in the spring of 1972: "I would like to quote the recollections as written down by Miss M. Helen Bosworth. My Aunt Helen lived with her sister, Grace, for many years in the white house at the corner of North and Park Streets. They were the daughters of the Reverend David Bosworth of Howden, Bosworth & Company. I quote:

'Papa came to Bristol in the Fifties. The family moved here in April, 1868, in our present home. Howden and Bosworth had bought out the Whitney Shop which made sashdoors and blinds and commenced manufacturing of the latter. In August, 1869, there was a cloudburst which took away all the buildings except the lower factory which was flung around on its underpinnings and washed away all the dirt from the island. By the time things were in shape again, sashdoor and blind factories had sprung up all around and taken the trade. In 1870, the company commenced making caskets on a small scale and in 1877 it was incorporated as Bristol Manufacturing Company.'

"I might add here that when the factory opened its doors again, it started to make both baby carriages and caskets. Finding the latter to be more profitable, they continued in that trade.

"The management of the Bristol Manufacturing Company stayed mainly in the Bosworth Family. First, Reverend David Bosworth, then in succession his sons: William H., Birnie B., and David R. After the death of my father, David R., my brother Nichols and I ran the factory until those doors were closed in 1939."

The firm was very active for a period of some forty years, at times employing one-hundred-fifty men and women, and using over a million feet of lumber in a year. Soon after 1910, the business began to decline, and in





*Bristol Manufacturing Company at the turn of the century*



*Claire Lathrop Bandmill, Inc., River Street*



*Drawing of the Kilbourn's Cyclone Gristmill by Joel Kilbourn, great-grandson of A. B. Kilbourn; present site of Freemountain Toys, Inc. (Vegimill)*



*Drake, Smith & Company, Inc., Maple Street*



*Deerleap Furniture Company, Briggs Hill*



1936 it went into the hands of receivers. Under new management, it was reopened, but closed in 1939. The following year the plant was purchased by Perley Eaton, who did some business there until the fire of 1947 which destroyed nearly all of the buildings. A few years later the remaining buildings were leveled by fire.

For a number of years, while the Bristol Manufacturing Company was manufacturing caskets, a separate industry known as the **O.K. Clothes Dryer Company** was housed in the factory belonging to the Bristol Manufacturing Company and manufactured clothes dryers of maple wood. The manufacture of clothes dryers was discontinued several years before the casket factory was closed.

Close to this plant, but independent of it, was the **James Whitney Chair Company**, founded about 1850. Whitney finally gave up the manufacture of chairs and in company with M.P. Varney began making caskets. This enterprise was not very successful, and the plant was sold to the Bristol Manufacturing Company which tore down one of the two Whitney buildings and erected a paint shop on the site.

Another manufacturing concern in Bristol which was very successful for a time, and one of the largest of its kind in the country, was the **Bartlett Plow Manufactory**. Much of the sod on the western prairies was broken by the plows manufactured at the Bartlett plant in Bristol. In 1847, the small plant in which the plows were made burned. It was located near Quaker Street in the town of Lincoln. The plows were made by David Tabor, Russell Tabor, and Stephen Bartlett. A new manufacturing site utilizing water power was sought and finally located at the junction of the New Haven River and Baldwin's Creek. After this land was purchased, the new site was named Rockydale. Five dwelling houses were built. Steam power was used while a water mill and larger, separate foundry and shop for continuing the plow business were built. The Tabors sold to **S. Bartlett & Company** who built a larger water mill containing a sawmill, with flutter wheels to operate the sawmill, and a large Brest Water Wheel

to run the plow machinery. Castings for the large water wheel and sawmill parts were made in the first foundry, as well as parts for the manufacture of road scrapers, cultivators, plows, hay cutters, drags, and harrows. Some years after the larger water mill was constructed, means for utilizing water power were much improved and later makes of water wheels were used. Clapboards, spruce lumber, and nail keg staves were added to the line. After spruce lumber began to become scarce, the manufacture of pill boxes and small turned wood parts from white birch was added.

About 1880, fire destroyed the factory of the Bartlett Plow Works but the machinery and the right to manufacture plows had been previously sold to the Patrick family in Hinesburg.

Near the plow factory was Rockwood Barrett's chair stock and butter tub factory which employed twelve men and used five-hundred thousand feet of lumber annually. Mr. Barrett was a Rutland man and eventually moved the firm to Rutland.

A sawmill in South Bristol, owned by a Mr. Varney, changed hands in the later 1870's and the new firm of **Sumner & Prime** began the manufacture of beekeepers' supplies. Later C.E. Gove bought into the firm which became known as **Prime & Gove**. The mill burned in 1894 and was not rebuilt.

In the last half of the century, several industries developed which had a short existence and in many cases the dates of the starting and closing of the firms cannot be obtained. There was a mill for tar coating of shingles which was situated beside the O'Brian Brook in South Bristol, and the wagon shops of Albert Dunshee & Son (Herbert), Arba Mansfield, and J.H. Wright. Three other wagon makers who also added blacksmithing to their trade were F. Greenough, Octave Cushman, and N. McIntyre. Harnesses were made by Ira Farnham and William Battles and later by Ira Eastman, Heman Hill, and J.Z. Gaudet. Peter Lander operated a cigar-making factory for a time, employing about twenty hands.

The flood of 1869 destroyed the old red gristmill, at the foot of Mill Hill, but the owner, R.D. Stewart, rebuilt it. Later the Bristol Manufacturing Company took it over as part of their plant and Mr. Stewart opened a feed store in the Gale store which had been moved to South Street.

In 1896, Arthur B. Kilbourn and E.W. Smith started a grain and feed store on East Street, where a bakery was once located. The building was rented from Neal Nelson while they constructed the **Cyclone Gristmill**. The gristmill purchased grains from local farmers, specializing in custom grinding. In addition they ran a feed store, where they sold flour, feed, grain and hay. In 1900, Mr. Kilbourn purchased his partner's interest. By 1909, his sons, John and Francis Kilbourn, were helping him with the mill. Soon the grain came in bulk via the railroad to New Haven Junction, where it was unloaded by hand and hauled to the mill in Bristol. This meant that instead of buying from the local farmers, the grain was purchased in larger quantities from grain companies. About 1913, farm and garden seeds were added and John Deere Farm Equipment and parts were sold. Later they began to sell building materials, small tools, kerosene and gasoline. The mill was a busy place and when needed, more modern machinery was added for custom grinding and mixing.

In 1924, a great fire started from a harness shop on South Street, spreading to the south side of Main Street, gutting most of the buildings, and completely leveling the grist mill. The mill was quickly rebuilt with a second structure to be used as the office. It is still standing almost in its original form. Presently, the structure is owned by Freemountain Toys, Inc., and is called the Vegimill.

While the Bristol Railroad was in operation, Kilbourn's grain was hauled from the station on North Street. In 1930, the railroad was discontinued and Mr. Kilbourn purchased a site in New Haven Junction and built his second mill on it. Here custom grinding was done and grain stored. In the 1950's it was closed.

After Arthur B. Kilbourn's death



in 1944, at the age of seventy-nine, his sons continued the business under the name of **A.B. Kilbourn Estate**. In the early 1960's it became the **Kilbourn Brothers**. John became the sole owner in 1963, and continued until his death in 1968. At the time of his death, the mill was the oldest family business in Bristol, having been continually operated for seventy-two years.

In 1897, the **Cold Spring Creamery** on the New Haven River, owned by Evarts and Eastman, was doing a thriving business and had just installed new machinery at its branch creamery in New Haven Mills. At this time, the **Riverside Condensed Milk Company** was formed and built a factory across the river from the creamery at a cost of several thousand dollars. Evarts and Eastman were both members of the Riverside Company which took over control of the creamery. At first the firm prospered, taking in from thirty-thousand to forty-thousand pounds of milk daily, but trouble soon arose. The condensery was closed and the machinery was sent to Worcester in 1901. Mike Hannon bought both the creamery and condensery buildings at auction. In 1903, he leased the creamery to a Boston firm and there is no further record of its activities. Except for two winters when it was used for roller skating, the condensery building remained idle until 1910 when Mr. Hannon sold it to Homer Hewitt and Fred Wright who established a wood turning factory employing from eight to ten persons.

The following is quoted from a taped recollection by Gertrude Hewitt Lathrop: "At one time, in the early 1900's, Homer ran a mill, situated on the west side of the New Haven River, just above the old Sumner Bridge. It was known as **Hewitt and Wright's Mill**." The factory burned in 1914 and was not rebuilt.

The same year the condensery was built, 1897, A.L. Cain leased a section of land at the corner of Pine and Maple Streets and began the construction of a factory for the making of wood novelties which was finished the next year. The factory, which was a successful enterprise, employed from ten

to twenty hands. After the factory burned in 1903, Mr. Cain was too disheartened to rebuild, but local men formed a stock company known as the **Bristol Novelty Company** and rebuilt the plant. After a time, the business ceased and the factory was left vacant.

In 1912, the factory of the **New Haven Mills Manufacturing Company** at New Haven Mills, owned by M. I. Thomas, burned. A special Village Meeting was immediately called in Bristol, where it was proposed that the Village buy the vacant Bristol Novelty Company factory and present it to Mr. Thomas, with tax exemption for five years, provided that he would locate in Bristol. The Village officers, however, found that they had no authority to buy property. Mr. Thomas offered to pay two-thousand-five-hundred dollars for the building. This offer was accepted and the remaining one-thousand-five-hundred dollars of the purchase price was provided by the townspeople, who were very anxious to have the plant located here. This was the beginning of the **Vermont Box Company**, which was operated by Ford Thomas, son of M. I. Thomas, until his retirement in 1952.

In September 1952, Mr. Thomas' majority stock interest in the corporation was sold to L. Stearns Gay, Jr., the other portion being retained by Reginald B. Sentenne. Stockholders, who were also officers and directors of the new corporation were: Reginald B. Sentenne, President; L. Stearns Gay, Jr., Treasurer; Richard P. Mullin, Vice President; Barbara S. Gay, Clerk; Leon S. Gay, and George E. Squier, Directors.

Shortly after this change of ownership, the manufacture of furniture was begun on a small scale. By 1954, the pine furniture of this company was being shipped throughout all of New England, while at the same time the wooden box business was showing some decline. To more properly identify the firm as a furniture manufacturing concern, the corporation changed its name in September 1956, to **Drake, Smith & Company, Inc.** (Mr. Gay had retained the right to this trade name from the former business.) The company discontinued

manufacture of boxes and concentrated on pine furniture and wooden counter display units.

The Drake, Smith & Company, Inc., now manufactures a complete line of colonial style pine furniture. Their products include bedroom, dining room, and living room furniture. Wooden display units are no longer manufactured.

In 1961, L. Stearns Gay, Jr., became President. He sold his interest in 1965, and Richard Mullin became President. In 1969, Emerson Manufacturing Company of Suncook, New Hampshire, bought controlling interest in the business. Emerson Manufacturing dissolved in 1975, and a new corporate structure evolved, the Drake, Smith & Company, Inc., with corporate offices located in Wakefield, Massachusetts. Bristol is a branch of the Drake, Smith corporation, with Richard Mullin serving as vice President.

After the company changed over to furniture manufacturing, space was created in the plant for a showroom. In 1962, the Drake, Smith Mill Store opened on Main Street. It was a primary outlet for their products in this area. The Mill Store was closed in December 1975. Another Mill Store was opened on Shelburne Road in Shelburne in 1976; it is one of a series of stores established by the new Drake, Smith corporation.

At present, Drake, Smith & Company employs about one-hundred-fifty workers in the Bristol branch.

The **A. Johnson Company** was founded near Saratoga, New York, in 1906 by Andrew Johnson and his sons, Frederick, Frank, and David. The business then moved to Pike, New Hampshire, in 1914; to Lake Dunmore, Vermont, in 1918; and to South Lincoln, Vermont, in 1925. In 1936, the company purchased the Fred Hammond farm on Bristol Flats.

The plant was severely damaged by a flood just before its opening in 1938, and the community of Bristol assisted in some of the rebuilding efforts. At this time, the firm was under the management of Fred Johnson and his son, Andrew. The mill operates on a large scale, buying logs in the vicinity



Fairly extensive dry kilns and planing facilities were added through the years, and in 1979 the plant employed forty-five persons. The operation is a family partnership owned by three generations. The fourth generation is represented in Bristol by Phillip, David, and Kenneth, sons of Andrew and his wife, Evangelyn (Duncan), who was from Salem, Virginia. The company has acquired fairly extensive lands through the years in hopes of supplying its own timber.

Charles Frary started a factory on the New Haven River, east of Bristol Village in 1908 and conducted a successful wood turning business there until 1934, when he sold it to Frank Elliot.

The **Frank E. Lee Company**, manufacturing small turned wooden goods, was started in 1938 in a small building adjoining the home of Mr. Lee. It was then known as **Peterson & Lee**. The following year, as business expanded, more room was needed, so they moved into the barn, which was a larger building. In the fall of 1940, this building was completely destroyed by fire. The following spring, Mr. Lee rebuilt his factory at the site of Charles Frary's factory, out in Rockydale, near the present Rusty Hub Restaurant. Mr. Lee's factory closed in the late 1960's.

The **Van Raalte Company** established a branch in Bristol in 1948, renting space in the Tomasi Block. In 1952, Van Raalte purchased the two buildings owned by the Tomasi family and expanded their production. The Bristol plant was one of the three Vermont plants which were part of the Saratoga, New York, unit, the other two were in Middlebury and Randolph. Bristol was a sewing plant, manufacturing nylon underwear from fabric knitted and cut at other Van Raalte mills.

In a taped interview with Mrs. Harold Follansbee, in August, 1979, she relates: "Four girls were scheduled to go to Saratoga, namely Erma King, of New Haven, Anna Wilson, Mabel Smith, and Lottie Follansbee, of Bristol, to learn the mechanism and supervisory programs of Van Raalte in November 1948. After being in the

Saratoga plant a few weeks under the supervision of Mr. Archie Guild and E.C. Carlson, we came to Bristol to supervise the line we had been assigned to. A supervisor had ten or twelve girls, each with a seamer and lockstitch machine."

By 1959, the Van Raalte plant in Bristol employed about one-hundred-fifty people. That number of employees held steady throughout its operation. In 1967, the Bristol branch was closed, as company policy decided to consolidate its operations in Middlebury, doubling its space there.

Quoted from Mrs. Harold Follansbee's taped interview, August, 1979: "January 1, 1967, the Van Raalte in Bristol was moved to Middlebury. A great many changes have taken place at what was the Van Raalte Building here in Bristol. It is the Deerleap Furniture store, operated and owned by Clayton Ladeau, Jr., and the laundry and photography shop owned and operated by Frank James."

The **Claire Lathrop Bandmill**, located on River Street, had its origins in his great-grandfather Noah Lathrop's mill in the Bristol Notch. Noah Lathrop's mill closed in 1925, as the stumpage was gone. His son, William, operated another mill, near his father's on Vincent Brook in the Notch. William's son, Clarence Lathrop, set up a sawmill on his farm in South Bristol (where Harold Butler's farm is now) in 1935. He carried on his business in a manner similar to his father and grandfather, cutting his logs in the winter, and sawing them in the summer. Much of his production was sold locally; white birch to Frank Lee, pine to Thomas, Vermont Box Company, and oak to Barre-Chelsea Railroad, in Barre.

During World War II, a large timber sale was purchased in Waltham, Vermont. Because of the war-time rationing, it was more feasible to operate on site. The mill was moved to Waltham; a diesel engine powered the mill. In the summer of 1944, Clarence Lathrop's son, Claire, purchased the mill and finished harvesting the timber sale. For a time, Clarence continued working at the mill summers. In 1947, the Waltham timber was gone, and

Claire moved the mill to River Street in Bristol. This site was the former lumber yard of the Bristol Manufacturing Company. As transportation of logs and lumber was now done by truck, not horses, the location was permanent.

In 1960, the purchase of a log debarker made logs clean for sawing year-round. Next, a six-foot band saw was installed. Custom planing was available.

A new and larger mill built of concrete and steel replaced the old one in 1971. A six-foot band resaw was added, also a machine shop for maintenance of machines. Six-million board feet of lumber is produced annually. Most of the production is hardwood, with maple the dominant species; the balance is pine and spruce. The lumber is marketed wholesale throughout the United States, Canada, and abroad. Most of it is used for furniture, yard stock, track ties, and pallet material.

The following is an excerpt from a taped interview with Claire Lathrop on July 24, 1979: "Our best ash goes to Taiwan and comes back to America in the form of a tennis racket. Our best oak goes to Germany, Holland, and Belgium to be made into furniture. Our best hard maple is sold to England where it is used in architectural work. Canada uses our low-grade oak for flooring, our white ash for furniture and hockey sticks."

By 1978, with petroleum-based energy at a premium, Claire Lathrop decided to convert to an automatic wood-fired boiler to generate steam needed in the kiln drying of his lumber. His source of energy, wood-waste bark, became valuable fuel. Nearly all the better grades of lumber are now kiln dried.

James Lathrop, the fifth generation, has engineered the installation of the machinery in the new mill, kilns, and energy plant. A second son, Thomas, grades the lumber as it comes from the mill. Bookkeeping is the responsibility of Claire's wife, Ruth. In 1975, Mr. Lathrop incorporated his business under the name of Claire Lathrop Bandmill, Inc.

Long-time employees include Wendell Mason, George Forand,



David Weaver, and Ray Martin. In 1979, more than thirty-five men were employed at the mill, in addition to several crews working in the woods.

**Kennedy Brothers** located in Bristol in 1943, moving into a former garage building on Mountain Street (the present site of the Bristol Trading Post). There, John and Paul Kennedy manufactured and distributed gift-ware, specializing in woodenware and items of wood combined with other materials, chiefly pottery, glass, and metal. Some of the pottery was manufactured there by John Kennedy, and decorated by hand by his mother, Mrs. Franklin J. (Edna) Kennedy.

In 1959, the operation was moved to Vergennes, where it continues to prosper today. At present, there is a branch store on Church Street in Burlington.

John Kennedy sold his interest in the business to his brother in 1969, and established his own pottery shop, the **Pittsfield Potters**, that year. The shop is presently run by his daughter, Nancy, and in the spring of 1980, a branch of Pittsfield Potters opened in New Haven Junction.

On January 1, 1966, Clayton Ladeau, Jr., began the manufacture of hand-rubbed pine furniture, near his home on Briggs Hill. From this site, there is a magnificent view of Deerleap, the name of the rocky ledge at the south end of Hogback Mountain; hence, the name, **Deerleap Furniture Company**.

At first, the showroom was in the shop. In 1971, Deerleap Furniture moved its showroom to the south side of Main Street and located in the Tomasi Block where Van Raalte's had been. It is the only outlet for their products, which include bedroom, dining room and living room furniture. In addition to the pine furniture, the store carries compatible sofas, bedding, and accessories.

It is a family business involving Mr. Ladeau's wife, Zelva; their son, Brian; and a few employees.

After the death of John Kilbourn in 1968, the Kilbourn Mill closed down. In the early 1970's, Roy Campbell purchased the mill for the purpose of manufacturing and distributing his

personal design of wood block toys.

In 1976, Beverly Red, a native of Ohio, purchased the Kilbourn Grist Mill from Campbell to house her **Freemountain Toys, Inc.** This site combined the necessary ingredients of a suitable building within an area of experienced had sewers for a cottage industry.

Beverly Red's main product is a durable cloth toy called a Vegimal. The copyrighted, animated Vegimals include a carrot, peas, broccoli, cauliflower, peanut, tomato, corn watermelon, orange, etc. They are completed by approximately thirty-five hand sewers living in the Bristol area. Utilizing the original grain bins, the grist mill, now called the "Vegimill," is where the material are cut, assembled, boxed, and prepared for the thriving wholesale business.

The product won a Certificate from the Public Action Coalition on Toys. They conform to all fire-safety standards, are constructed from materials without any buttons or minute loose parts, and are used in nutrition and child-care programs as learning tools because of their educational value. The toys are distributed to a wide range of quality outlets throughout the United States and Canada.

A seventeen-inch zippered velour pea pod, housing five smiling pea brothers, has proven the most popular of these Bristol products. Other Beverly Red machine-washable creations are a velour zippered can of sardines with four fish attached with velcro fasteners; a mother sheep of white sherpa fur and brown velour, with a baby lamb; a twenty-inch Emile Bearheart, with a pocket for a red stuffed velour heart; and an eleven-inch tan velour pyramid, with a blue velour mummy inside. The newest addition to the line is a series of hats with various attachments to the sides: horns, wings, lightning bolts, and ears included. Because the hats are so popular, Freemountain Toys now employs between one-hundred and one-hundred-forty sewers.

In June, 1980, Beverly Red sold Freemountain Toys, Inc., to Vernon Michael Balser. Mr. Balser's plans for

Freemountain Toys are expansion, particularly the toy line, and continuation of the business as a cottage industry with the company headquarters remaining at the Vegimill.

Information for this chapter was provided by the *History of Bristol, Vermont*, Second Edition; the *Three Rivers* by Rowland Robinson; V. Michael Balser; Bernard Bosworth; Miriam Kilbourn Burke; Lottie O. Follansbee; Andrew Johnson; Barbara Kennedy; William A. Kilbourn; Clayton and Zelva Ladeau; Claire Lathrop; Gertrude Hewitt Lathrop; Beverly Red; and Rutherford W. Smith.





1 2 3 4 5 6

North side of Main Street



10 11

Three buildings on south side of Main Street



13 14 15 16 17 18

South side of Main Street



### III Business Center

In this section, we have attempted to list the businesses that have operated on Main Street since the First Edition of the *History of Bristol, Vermont* printed in 1940. The written information corresponds to the numbered sketches shown here of the blocks on the north side of Main Street and of the blocks on the south side of Main Street.



Watercolor sketches of both sides of  
Main Street — 1980 — by Dennis Bye

**Main Street Blocks**

**1. NORTON BLOCK** — owned by Edward Brown and Harold Mayo

First Floor — West Side	
Present-1979	Cubber's, Cliff and Louise Adams, owners, restaurant.
1978-1976	Take-A-Break, Patricia Olson and James Morrissey, owners, restaurant.
1976-1962	The Mill Store, Drake & Smith Company, owners, furniture retail store.
1962-1940	Abrams' Department Store, A. J. (Jack) Abrams, owner.
1938-1907	Bristol Fruit Market, Peter Tomasi, owner.
Second Floor — West Side	
1952-1921	Wendel's Barber Shop, M. J. (Jack) Wendel, barber.
First Floor — East Side	
Present-1980	Cubber's, Cliff and Louise Adams, owners, restaurant.
1980-1978	Bristol Bakery, Paul Ralston, owner.
1978-1977	Bristol Bakery, Richard Smeraldo, owner.
1976-1962	The Mill Store, Drake & Smith Company, owners, furniture retail store.
1962-1920	Abrams' Department Store, A. J. (Jack) Abrams, owner.
Second Floor — East Side	
1952-1921	Wendel's Pool Room, M. J. (Jack) Wendel, owner.

**2. EMERSON W. SMITH BLOCK** — owned by Edward and Alice Brown

First Floor	
Present-1977	Sand & Pots, Sandra L. Murphy and Patricia Jackman, owners, retail florist.
1976-1971	The Mill Store, Drake & Smith Company, owners, furniture retail store.
1971-1964	Fabric Shop, Simone Weaver, owner.
1962-1939	Abrams' Department Store, A. J. (Jack) Abrams, owner.
Second Floor	
Present	Apartments.

**3. BISBEE BLOCK** — owned by Edward and Alice Brown

First Floor	
Present-1977	Guy's Precision Cuts, Kimberly R. Bouvier and Anne Paquette, owners, hairdressers.
1976-1971	The Mill Store, Drake & Smith Company, owners, furniture retail store.
1971-1966	Fabric Shop, Simone Weaver, owner.
1966-1956	Quinlan's Appliance Store, Robert Quinlan, owner.
1956-1950	Grey's IGA, William and Marilyn Grey, owners.
1950-1933	Wixon's IGA, Clifton A. Wixon, owner.
Second Floor	
Present	Apartments.

**4. BRISTOL BLOCK** — owned by Jaoa T. DaMotta

First Floor	
Present-1977	Vacant.
1977-1971	Helen's Place, Helen and Lawrence Lathrop, Sr., owners, fabric and gift shop.
1971-1960	Vacant.
1960-1943	Way's Oddity Shop, Chester and Marjorie Way, owners.

1943	E. J. Bristol Estate, Hazel Bristol, owner, variety store.
Second Floor	
1946-1909	Dr. R. J. Bristol, dental office.

**5. DANFORTH BLOCK** — owned by Paul and Gerrie Ralston

First Floor	
Present-1980	Bristol Bakery, Paul and Gerrie Ralston, owners.
1979-1978	Vacant.
1977	Village Craft Shop, Lucille Jimmo, owner.
1976-1975	Piney Wood Hill Originals, Joseph Conowal owner, craft shop.
1974-1973	Vacant.
1972-1971	Record Shop, Gregory Paul, owner.
1970	Vacant.
1969-1966	Bristol Bakery, Hulda Baker and Lucille LaRose, owners.
1965-1940 and prior	Demers Bakery, Joe Demers, owner.
Second Floor	
Present-1980	Apartment.
1979-1976	George R. Vince, attorney.
1976-1956	Vacant.
1956-1940 and prior	Hier's Barber Shop, William Hier, barber.

**6. BROWE BLOCK** — owned by Addison County Community Action Group

First Floor	
Present-1971	Addison County Buyer's Club, Addison County Community Action Group food store.
1970-1969	Vacant.
1968-1966	Armand's Barber Shop, Armand Compagna, barber.
1966-1963	Adams' Barber Shop, Wayne Adams, barber.
1963-1962	Dottie's Restaurant, Dorothy Brown, owner.
1962-1958	Owen's Bakery, Claude Owen, owner.
1957-1956	V.F.W., Bristol Post #9449.
1955-1940 and prior	Browe's Barber Shop, William Browe, barber.
Second Floor	
Present-1974	Vacant.
1974-1971	Tooth Hollow, Addison County Dental Clinic.
1970 and prior	Vacant.

**7. WAY BLOCK** — owned by George Basil, David Rowe, and Richard Brown

First Floor	
Present-1979	(West Side) Burke Real Estate, Edward and Michael Burke, owners. (East Side) Country Insurance, Inc., Alan and Diane Holcomb, owners.
1978-1977	Bristol Owl Gallery, George Basil, David Rowe, and Richard Brown, owners.
1976-1975	Vacant.
1974-1971	Kountry Kupboard Restaurant, Toni and Bruce Cousino, owners.



- 1970-1962 Vacant.  
1961-1940 Grand Union Company, Douglas Dion, Patrick Tyler, Kenneth Cameron, and Roy Clark, managers.
- Second Floor  
Present-1974 Apartments.  
1973-1940 Vacant.  
and prior
8. DIKE BLOCK — owned by George Basil and David Rowe
- First Floor  
Present-1976 (West Side) Bristol Paint & Glass, Inc., Richard and Cynthia Cote, owners.  
(East Side) Bristol Auto Parts, Inc., Richard and Cynthia Cote, George Basil, and David Rowe, owners.  
1975-1962 Dike's Grocery Store, Audrey Dike, owner.  
1962-1940 A & P Company, Walton Brown, manager.  
and prior
- Second Floor  
Present-1979 Apartments.  
1978 David A. Bronson, attorney.  
1978 Twice Around, Tom and Sharon Alderman, owners, used clothing shop.  
1977-1976 Vacant.  
1975-1945 Ezra S. Dike, attorney.  
1945 and Tin Shop, Edgar Dike, owner.  
prior
9. PALMER BLOCK — owned by Dorothy Palmer
- First Floor — West Side  
Present-1976 Kountry Kupboard Restaurant, Richard Provost, owner.  
1976-1975 Kountry Kupboard Restaurant, Toni and Bruce Cousino, owners.  
1974 Electronic Lab, David Cobb, owner, television, radio, and stereo sales.  
1973-1971 Vacant.  
1970-1940 Central Vermont Public Service Corporation, William James, Wallace De Coursey, managers, retail sales of electrical appliances.  
and prior
- Second Floor — West Side  
Present-1949 Vacant.  
1948-1940 Masonic Hall.  
and prior
- First Floor — East Side  
Present-1974 Poor Richard's Corner Store, Richard E. Smith, owner.  
1974-1970 Palmer's IGA, Gerald LaFoy, owner.  
1970-1966 Palmer's IGA, Royden D. Palmer, owner.  
1966-1957 Abel's IGA, Howard Abel, owner.  
1957-1940 Tudhope's Market, John Tudhope, owner.
- Second Floor — East Side  
Present-1979 Vacant.  
1979-1977 Woodworking Shop, Richard E. Smith, owner.  
1976-1948 Vacant.  
1948-1940 Masonic Hall.  
and prior
10. HATCH BLOCK — owned by Ivan Hendee
- First Floor — East Side  
Present-1980 Mr. Bumble's Pub, Albin and Margaret Booth, owners, restaurant.  
1980-1978 Bristol Tavern, Wendel Farrell, owner.  
1977-1976 Georgia's Place, Georgia Vaughn, owner, restaurant.  
1976-1963 The B & L Restaurant, Beatrice and Lyle LaRose, owners.  
1963-1939 Annie's Restaurant, Hubert Rivers and Barbara Desorda, owners.
- First Floor — West Side  
1972-1969 Quinlan's Paint and Small Appliances, Robert Quinlan, owner.
11. MARTIN BUILDING — owned by Daniel and Anthony Thomas
- First Floor  
Present-1968 Thomas Sporting Goods, Anthony and Madine Thomas, owners.  
1968-1962 Thomas Sporting Goods, Daniel Thomas, owner.  
1962-1943 Way's Hardware, Chester Way, owner.  
1943-1907 R. C. Martin, Ramie C. Martin, owner, paint and paper business.
- Second Floor  
Present Apartments.
12. PATNODE BUILDING — owned by Jackman's Inc.
- Present-1961 Jackman's Garage, Jackman's Inc., owner.  
1961-1960 Robinson's Garage, Robinson Oil Company of Bristol, Inc., owners.  
1961-1942 Shadrick's Garage, Ralph W. Shadrick, owner.  
1942-1920 Patnode's Garage, Van Patnode, owner.
13. DUNSHEE BLOCK — owned by Terrence and Joan Thomas.
- First Floor — East Side  
Present-1975 Bristol Electronics, David Cobb, owner, television, radio, and stereo sales.  
1975-1974 W. R. Brooks, L. Stearns Gay, Jr., owner, clothing store.  
1962-1948 Way's General Store, Chester M. Way, owner.  
1943-1938 Brooks Men's Shop, Warren and Kathleen Brooks, owners, men's clothing.
- Second Floor — East Side  
Present Apartments.
- First Floor — West Side  
Present-1980 Moynihan's, Karen Yager, owner, clothing store.  
1980-1975 Joni's, Joan Thomas, owner, clothing store.  
1975-1974 W. R. Brooks, L. Stearns Gay, Jr., owner, clothing store.  
1974-1943 W. R. Brooks, Warren and Kathleen Brooks, owners, clothing store.  
1940's Dunshee's Clothing Store, Evelyn Dumas and Nellie Welch, owners.
- Second Floor — West Side  
1945-1930 Peggy's Beauty Shop, Peggy Hill, owner.

14. WILSON BLOCK — owned by South Side Drug Store,  
c/o Jack Anderson

First Floor

- Present-1974 South Side Drug Store, Jack Anderson,  
pharmacist and owner.  
1974-1956 South Side Drug Store, Reginald F. Boynton,  
pharmacist and owner.  
1956-1930 South Side Drug Store, Laurence E.  
McShane, pharmacist and owner.

Second Floor

- Present-1979 George R. Vince, attorney.  
1979-1978 David A. Bronson, attorney.

15. BANK BLOCK — owned by The Merchants Bank

First Floor and Second Floor

- Present-1969 The Merchants Bank, Harold D. Benway,  
manager.  
1969-1902 The First National Bank of Bristol.

16. KILBOURN BLOCK — owned by William H. Danforth, Jr.

First Floor — East and West Sides

- Present-1978 Mary's Restaurant, William H. Danforth, Jr.,  
owner.  
1978-1973 Mary's Restaurant, David and Mary Bolton,  
owners.

First Floor — East Side

- 1972-1964 Frank & Aggie's Coin Laundry, Frank and  
Agatha James, owners.  
1964-1959 Burke's Coin Laundry, Edward and Miriam  
Burke, owners.  
1959-1944 South Side Grocery Store, Edward and  
Miriam Burke, owners.

First Floor — West Side

- 1973-1943 Snap's Restaurant, Raymond and Marion  
Palmer, owners.

Second Floor

- 1951-1930 Bessie Sargent's Beauty Parlor, Bessie  
Sargent, owner.

17. PATTERSON BLOCK — owned by Ralph E.  
and Joan H. Burt

First Floor

- Present-1976 Ben Franklin Variety Store, Donald and  
Dorothy Frey, owners.  
1976-1947 Ben Franklin Variety Store, Lawrence and  
Doris Jewel, owners.  
1947-1936 Ben Franklin Variety Store, John and  
Florence Cragen, owners.

Second Floor

- Present Apartments.

18. DUMAS BLOCK — owned by Stanton and Rosemary  
Bryden

First Floor

- Present-1949 Bristol Insurance Agency and Real Estate,  
Stanton H. Bryden, owner.  
1949-1919 Bristol Insurance Agency, Albert M. Russell,  
owner.

Second Floor

- Present-1978 Bristol Insurance Agency and Real Estate,  
Stanton H. Bryden, owner.  
1978-1975 David A. Bronson, attorney.  
1974-1972 Armand's Barber Shop, Armand Compagna,  
barber.

1964

Adams' Barber Shop, Wayne Adams,  
barber.

1950-1946

Ekman Photo Studio, Gustav Ekman,  
photographer.

19. FARR BLOCK — owned by Clayton and Zelva Ladeau

First Floor

- Present-1972 Deerleap Furniture Store, Clayton and Zelva  
Ladeau, owners.  
1972-1952 Van Raalte Company, sewing factory.  
1952-1946 Tomasi Hardware, James and Prudence  
Tomasi, owners.  
1946-1938 Tomasi Soda Fountain, Peter, Domenica,  
and James Tomasi, owners.  
Previous Farr family hardware business.

Second Floor

- Present-1972 Deerleap Furniture Store, Clayton and Zelva  
Ladeau, owners.  
1972-1947 Van Raalte Company, sewing factory.

20. TOMASI BLOCK — owned by Frank and Agatha James

First Floor

- Present-1972 Frank & Aggie's Coin Laundry, Frank and  
Agatha James, owners. Frank's Photos  
also on premises.  
1972-1952 Van Raalte Company, sewing factory.  
1952-1946 Bristol Freeze Locker and Soda Fountain,  
James and Prudence Tomasi, owners.  
1946 Block built by James Tomasi.

Second Floor

- Present Apartments.  
1972-1947 Van Raalte Company, sewing factory.

21. LATHROP BLOCK — owned by Howard and Harry  
Steinburg

First Floor

- Present-1976 King's Barn Annex, Gerald King, owner,  
antiques.  
1975 Bristol Bargain Box, Fred Curtis, owner,  
assorted goods.  
1974-1968 Vacant.  
1967-1916 U.S. Post Office of Bristol.

Second Floor — Back

- Present-1970 Apartment.  
1970-1954 Vacant.  
1954-1953 Harley G. Shepard, M.D.  
1952 Charles S. Paine, M.D.  
1951-1924 Western Telephone and Telegraph Company  
office.

Second Floor — Front

- Present-1924 Apartment.

Basement

- Present-1977 Bristol Teen Center.  
1976 Bristol Paint & Glass, Richard and Cynthia  
Cote, owners.  
1976-1973 Bristol Paint & Glass, Wayne Adams,  
owner.  
1972-1968 Armand's Barber Shop, Armand Compagna  
barber.  
1967-1954 Vacant.  
1953-1947 Lathrop's Sporting Goods, George N.  
Lathrop, owner.





*North side of Main Street — 1950*  
(compliments of Bristol Historical Society)



*North side of Main Street — 1979*

## Haymarket Square

Haymarket Square existed previous to 1920 on a square vacant lot located between the Martin Building and the Dunshee Block on the south side of Main Street.

In material written by Randall E. Brown in 1978, he describes Haymarket Square as follows: "The most memorable events that took place at the square were auctions of personal property. Furniture, tools, books,

animals, etc. were sold to the highest bidder, the lifetime accumulations of assorted stuff. . . ."

Haymarket Square's colorful activities came to an end in 1920 when Van Patnode's automobile sales and service garage was erected on the site. This site is now known as Jackman's Garage.

Information compiled from material written in 1978 by former Bristol resident Randall E. Brown.

## Early Hostelries

One of the first public houses in Bristol was a log house built by Henry McLaughlin in 1788 at what is now known as Daniels Corner at the intersection of Routes 17 and 116 west of the Village. In 1800, he built a brick house near the log cabin and continued his work as host to the public. This was the house where the first post office was located. The log house of the Caldwell Brothers, four miles northeast of Bristol Village, on the Starksboro road, was also a public house and it was here that the post office was located from 1804-15. Robert Holley opened a house in Bristol Village in 1808. At a later date, V. Miller ran a tavern on Bristol Flats in a house which had been built and owned by Robert Dunshee. Harvey Munsill's manuscript reports that Henry Vradenburgh in 1835 kept a public house in Bristol, too. The O'Neill Block, which was located at the east end of Main Street on the north side, was used as a hotel at one time. It was destroyed by fire in 1929.

The Commercial House, owned by Ryland Hatch, made its appearance in the 1880's as a rival to the Bristol House. The Commercial House ran a coach to convey passengers to and from New Haven Depot, as this preceded the arrival of the Bristol Railroad Station. The Commercial House was located in the so-called Hatch Block at the eastern end of Main Street on the south side. Mr. Hatch maintained a large livery stable at his establishment. The Hatch stables burned in 1896 and were never rebuilt.

The public house of early times which was the most well known was the Bristol House, later called the Bristol Inn. Its history spans one-hundred-thirty-nine years. A public house built by Abram Gaige was burned in 1817. In 1820, he rebuilt and this was the beginning of the Bristol House. Mr. Gaige was the landlord from 1820 to 1835. From 1835 to 1871, the place changed hands several times. In 1871, J. J. Ridley bought the hotel. He continued as landlord until 1896, except for a few months in 1893 between his sale of the Bristol House to Q. E. Grover and W. E. Frank and his repur-



chase of it. In 1896, Thomas Leonard became the proprietor of the hotel, followed by Clement Burnham in 1906. Mr. and Mrs. Burnham remained owners of the Inn for nearly fifty years. In 1954, Walter Palmer purchased the Inn, and in 1955 sold it to the Dog Team Corporation. In 1958, Earl and Geraldine Laviana bought the Bristol Inn. In 1959, financial difficulties were encountered, and the Bristol Inn buildings were sold in 1960 to Clement and Aurore Legault but the land was retained by the Lavianas. The north annex was moved to Mountain View Street where it is currently used for apartments. The one-hundred-thirty-nine-year-old main building of the Bristol Inn was torn down in the early spring of 1961 to make room for a Grand Union Store and parking lot. Now the Brooks Discount Store occupies the former site of the Grand Union Store.

Certainly the Bristol Inn played a major role in the economy of the town. During J. J. Ridley's proprietorship, he advertised his hotel in the 1888 Bristol Herald in this way: "It is 5½ miles from New Haven Depot. Stage connects with trains twice daily. Telegraph and livery connected with the house." The Bristol House ran their horse-drawn coach to carry guests to and from the Rutland Railroad station at New Haven. During Ridley's

ownership, mainly two steady types of customers patronized the Bristol House. One group of customers were the men who came in once a week to catch up on the news and enjoy gentlemanly companionship. This was a carry-over from the days when once a week a horseback rider from Middlebury would arrive with the Bristol mail. The Bristol House was the distribution point for the weekly mail delivery.

The other main customers were the traveling salesmen, "the drummers." They would arrive by train, take the coach to the Bristol House, rent a horse and buggy from the livery stable there, and proceed on their rounds. They were glad to return to the atmosphere of the Bristol House after a day of business. Proprietor J. J. Ridley was one of the promoters of the idea of a Bristol Railroad which in turn would develop his business at the Bristol House.

In a taped interview with Kate Peake and her son, Peveril, in February 1979, Peveril related a tale of the Bristol House from the days when his father boarded there. Peveril says, "Father boarded there from the time he was seventeen years old. That was when the Ridley's owned it. They ran not a bad place, but it was more male oriented, you know. There were spittoons and if some of it splashed

over the woodwork, well, it was mahogany rather than the golden oak. . . ."

During the Burnhams forty-eight years as owners, the Bristol Inn became a more genteel hotel. Mr. and Mrs. Burnham remodeled the house inside and out, redecorated the interior, landscaped the yard with bushes and flowering bulbs, and greatly increased the attractiveness of the Inn. The Burnhams initially had forty horses in the livery stable and many carriages and sleighs for use by the traveling salesmen who did business in the area. The Bristol Inn maintained its livery service longer than any other establishment in town.

In 1930, the Burnhams built an annex on the north side which was needed for their increasing trade. When Middlebury College ran its German School in Bristol during the 1930's and 1940's, the students boarded at the Bristol Inn. Fine service and excellent cooking made the Bristol Inn well known.

Royden D. Palmer was a close friend of Harry Burnham, son of the Bristol Inn owners. In a taped interview in November 1978, Mr. Palmer spoke of the Inn during the Burnham's time: "The Inn was noted for hospitality and good food. . . . The salesmen made their headquarters here and not just salesmen, but people from all over the country came here. The Burnhams had a reputation that it was an awful good place to stay. The people came in the lounge in the evenings and sat there and just talked about the events of the day here — what was going on."

After the Lavianas bought the Inn in 1958, they initially made extensive repairs and improvements. The three dining rooms had a capacity of three-hundred-sixty-five people. There were twenty-four guest rooms. There were many antiques in the Inn, a Currier and Ives collection, and a glass collection.

When the Bristol Inn buildings were sold and the townspeople learned the original building was to be razed and the north annex moved to another location, some action was attempted. The local planning commission at that

*Bristol Inn — in the 1950's*





time tried to interest other restaurateurs in buying the Inn. A citizens group also tried to block the ruination of the Inn. All was to no avail, and the razing of the one-hundred-thirty-nine-year-old Bristol Inn was completed in the early spring of 1961.

One newspaper later wrote that "the clock in the belfry of Holley Hall has seen many things come and go in Bristol, but perhaps the loss of the Bristol Inn was the greatest loss the old clock has ever witnessed."

## Banking

"... the Holleys and the Peakes were the first bankers here. ... this is how all this property went in and out of the Peake's and Holley's control. They owned ... at least twenty-five or thirty farms, and that money was put into investments, stocks, and bonds, and this and that in western lands." Quoted from a taped interview with Kate and Peveril Peake in February 1979.

The first bank in Bristol was opened in 1891 by S.M. Door's Sons of Rutland. It failed and closed its doors in 1893.

The First National Bank of Bristol was chartered in May 1902, with Chase Bush, E.B. Patterson, W.E. Hanks, Ralph Denio, and F.R. Dickerman as directors. In 1924, at the time of the big fire which destroyed so many buildings on the south side of Main Street, the bank building was burned and the following year the present brick structure was erected.

The bank was organized with a capital of twenty-five-thousand dollars. In 1932, its capital stock was increased to fifty-thousand dollars. Until the 1940's, the limited money supply of the bank kept it out of the residential and commercial loan market. By the late 1960's, the surplus fund had reached a quarter of a million dollars, which, with the capital stock, made loans up to thirty-thousand dollars available. During this period, the bank started making more personal and automobile installment loans. However, it became increasingly apparent that in order to meet the rising demand for residential and commercial loans, the directors must consider a



*South side of Main Street — 1892*  
(compliments of Bristol Historical Society)



*South side of Main Street — 1979*

merger with a larger commercial bank capable of furnishing the necessary funds to make it possible to offer a full-service banking facility. Another difficulty was the need for much new and more modern equipment. Both problems were solved with the merger on September 9, 1969, with the Merchants National Bank of Burlington.

The Merchants Bank is continually improving the quality of service provided its customers through the use of a sophisticated communications system. In 1979, the bank installed IBM 3600 Series on-line teller terminals in all Merchants Bank offices.

At the time of the merger in 1969, the officers and directors of the First National Bank were as follows: Leland H. Landon, President; Harold D. Williamson, Vice President; Daniel L. Garland, Wesley C. Little, Gordon H. Brown, and Stanton H. Bryden, Directors; Leonard J. Little, Cashier; Ronald J. Gordon, Assistant Cashier; and Eileen R. Smith, Bookkeeper. The Board of Directors and employees of the Bristol bank were all retained, with the directors serving as an advisory board of the Merchants Bank.

The present Advisory Board consists of the following: Harold D. Ben-



way, Chairman; Dr. Harold E. Williamson, Stanton H. Bryden, Arthur Clifford, Martyn Hutchins, and Prudence Tomasi.

Some of the employees who served for many years were: Ralph Brown, Arland Farr, Leland Landon, Leonard Little, Norman McIntyre, and Dorothy Roscoe.

Present employees include Assistant Vice President of the Merchants Bank and Manager of the Bristol Office, Harold D. Benway; Assistant Treasurer and Assistant Manager, Eileen R. Smith; Customer Service, Lois Burbank, Madeline Wendell, and Janet Russell; Head Teller, Mary Pierce; Tellers, Gwenyth Zeno, Anita Oberle, Betty Norris, Nancy Skidmore, Joyce Reynolds, and Sue Brown.

Information for this article was compiled from the Second Edition of the *History of Bristol, Vermont* and "A Short History of the Bristol Bank" by Leland H. Landon.

## Post Office

We are indebted to The Honorable Harvey Munsill's information written in *The Early History of Bristol, Vermont* regarding the early post offices in Bristol. Mr. Munsill remembered that Thaddeus McLaughlin served as postmaster previous to 1804 and ran the postal business in a house built by his father in 1800, at Daniels Corner just west of Bristol Village at the intersection of Routes 17 and 116.

Mr. Munsill obtained statistics from the Post Office Department in Washington, D.C., on early postal information dating from 1804. That department lists Jacob Caldwell, 1804, as Bristol's first postmaster. However, their records prior to that date were lost in an 1836 fire.

Jacob Caldwell maintained the post office in a log cabin kept as a public house by his brother and himself located four miles northeast of Bristol Village on Route 116 leading to Starksboro. In 1805, Jacob's brother, Isaac Caldwell, became postmaster. The post office remained at their public house for ten years.

In 1815, Joseph Otis was appointed postmaster and the office was

moved to his home in Bristol Village. Since that time, the office has never been outside of the Village, although for many years it was kept at the home or place of business of the current postmaster.

The first separate location on record for the post office was on the north side of Main Street where Cubber's is now, in the Norton Block. After the fire of 1898 on Main Street, the office was moved to the Drake-Farr Block on the west corner of Main and South Streets, where it remained until fire destroyed that block in 1914. It was then moved for a short time to the Grange Hall on Garfield Street. After the Lathrop Block was built in 1916 on the site of the former Drake-Farr Block, the post office was moved there.

In 1967, the present post office building was erected on West Street on the site of the former William Browe residence. The colonial style building

Bristol, Lincoln, Monkton, New Haven, and Starksboro.

Previous to the first post office being opened in town, the mail for Bristol was carried through an arrangement made by a few of the early settlers taking turns among themselves to go and get the mail from Middlebury. In this way, the mail was received in Bristol each week. By 1810, the mail was brought on horseback from the Middlebury Post Office on a more regular weekly schedule. Sometime between 1810 and 1849, the service was changed to semi-weekly mail delivery.

In 1849, the Burlington-Rutland Railroad was opened for its entire run, thus there was daily delivery of mail to Bristol. It appears that sometime in the 1860's, the Bristol mail was delivered to the New Haven railroad depot instead of to Middlebury. The mail was then brought by stage from the New Haven depot twice a day. After the Bristol Railroad was established in



Post Office — located on West Street; dedicated in 1967

was opened for business July 31, 1967, and officially dedicated on November 12, 1967. The building was erected by M. H. Parsons and Sons Lumber Company of York Village, Maine. It is owned by that company and leased to the Post Office Department. The building is double the size of the former post office, contains modern postal equipment, and has a large area for parking and for postal vehicles. It serves approximately eight thousand patrons in the five-town area of

1892 between Bristol and New Haven depot, the train started carrying the mail. This continued until 1930 when the Bristol Railroad stopped running. At that time, the mail was again delivered to Bristol by private carrier from New Haven.

In 1949, the first Highway Post Office in this area carried mail from Albany, New York, to Burlington, Vermont, in lieu of the mail by railroad. In 1955, all mail service by the Rutland Railroad was discon-



tinued. Mail service is now furnished by a contract mail messenger from Burlington twice daily.

After 1900, there was marked progress in postal service in the town. Up to this time, all mail was picked up by residents at the Bristol Post Office. In 1901, Rural Free Delivery was started in the area. R.F.D. Route 1, with Loren Jacobs as the first carrier, ran through Bristol Flats, South Bristol, and parts of New Haven and Middlebury. Within a year, two other rural routes were started. R.F.D. Route 2, with George Dike as carrier, went north and covered part of Monkton. R.F.D. Route 3, with Fred Manum as carrier, covered parts of Lincoln and Starksboro. About 1905, R.F.D. Route 4 was established through Bristol Notch and into Lincoln with M. U. Ross as carrier.

Due to the increase in business, in 1923 Bristol moved from being a third-class post office to being a second-class post office. It is still a second-class post office today.

On December 31, 1943, West Lincoln Post Office, which had been served through Bristol, was closed and the patrons put on Bristol Route 3. On November 15, 1952, the post office at South Lincoln, which had also been served through Bristol, was closed the the patrons were put on a Star Route from Lincoln Post Office. The Lincoln Post Office closed November 1968, and patrons previously served by that post office were added to the R.D. 1 Bristol route. At this time also, the Lincoln to South Lincoln Star Route was discontinued and these patrons were also added to the R.D. 1 Bristol route.

There have been several changes over the years in the rural routes and the carriers that serve them. Presently, there are three rural free delivery routes and one Star Route served through the Bristol Post Office.

R.F.D. Route 1 serves all of the Town of Lincoln, as well as the South Starksboro area. The carrier since January 1980, is Brian M. Ladeau, who worked previously as a substitute carrier.

R.F.D. Route 2 serves Bristol Flats, some of the easterly part of New

Haven, the south and easterly part of Monkton, Starksboro between Route 116 and Cheese Factory Road, and the northern part of Bristol. The carrier since January 1980, is Lloyd K. Dike, who also worked previously as a substitute carrier.

Auxiliary Route 3, known locally as Route 3, was established February 24, 1979, because of the increase in rural growth. It includes parts of the former Routes 1 and 2. Route 3 serves Bristol Notch up to the Lincoln line, runs south from New Haven Mills to Nash Bridge, and includes Carlstrom Road. The carrier since January 1980 is John F. Gemignani, a former Starksboro substitute carrier.

For over seventy years, a Star Route has served patrons residing between the Bristol Post Office and the Starksboro Post Office. The Bristol Star Route is presently served by the mail messenger from the Burlington Sectional Center. Mail for the Bristol Star Route is sorted and cased by the Bristol Post Office.

Due to the increase in the number of patrons served, city delivery was established November 2, 1968. Former city delivery carriers were John P. Pfeifer, Ralph O. Meader, and Melwood S. O'Bryan. Presently Craig S. Scribner, Sr., who started November 2, 1968, and Charles A. Hanson who transferred from clerk to carrier on November 24, 1973, are the two city delivery carriers. One city delivery route has been motorized since July 1974.

On December 1, 1956, for the first time in the history of the Bristol Post Office, the appointment was made of an assistant to the Postmaster. George Leonard Burt, Senior Clerk, was given this appointment. After Burt's retirement on November 1, 1969, Senior Clerk Roy J. Clark assumed the position of Assistant to the Postmaster. He served in that capacity until his retirement on June 30, 1972. Since that time, there has been no Assistant to the Postmaster because of a revision in the practice of the U.S. Postal Service.

Following is a list of Postmasters serving the Bristol Post Office since the first recorded appointment: Jacob Caldwell appointed April 1804; Isaac

Caldwell appointed March 4, 1805; Joseph Otis appointed August 10, 1815; Henry Soper appointed May 15, 1829; Henry C. Soper appointed September 8, 1829; Datus R. Gaige appointed October 1, 1834; William G. Munson appointed June 19, 1849; Titus B. Gaige appointed November 22, 1856; Winter H. Holley appointed April 13, 1861; Levi Hasseltine, Jr., appointed May 26, 1873; Frederick Landon appointed February 20, 1877; Jesse J. Ridley appointed October 1, 1885; Noble F. Dunshee appointed October 3, 1889; William W. Needham appointed March 14, 1894; Fred G. Haskins appointed March 9, 1898; Clement A. Burnham appointed January 7, 1915; William A. Beebe appointed August 5, 1923; Donald J. Wilson appointed December 20, 1928; Richard S. Smith appointed June 1, 1933; Laurence E. McShane appointed April 3, 1938; Carleton H. Bosworth appointed July 1, 1944; George F. Whitcomb appointed Acting Postmaster April 15, 1950, and Postmaster July 12, 1951; James A. Bouvier appointed Acting Postmaster September 15, 1967 and Postmaster December 17, 1967.

On December 28, 1979, three long-time postal employees retired. The recently retired employees include James A. Bouvier, former Postmaster, who was with the Bristol postal service since June 1947; Max T. Dumas, former Bristol rural carrier, who started with the Bristol postal service in March 1949; and William W. McKean, former Bristol rural carrier, who started in mail service in New York City in 1945 and came to the Bristol carrier position in 1968. Another long-serving postal worker was Milton W. Liberty who worked as contracted custodian from 1967 until his retirement in 1975. He worked previously as a part-time custodian starting in 1956.

Since the retirements listed above, several changes have taken place in the organization of the postal employees. The Bristol Post Office has been supervised by an Officer in Charge pending the appointment of a new Postmaster by the U.S. Postal Service.

Personnel as of June 1980 were: Officer in Charge Clarence Ross



(Postmaster of Dorset, Vermont); Senior Clerk William A. Kilbourn; Clerk Linda L. Lathrop; rural carriers Brian M. Ladeau on R.D. 1, Lloyd K. Dike on R.D. 2, and John F. Gemignani on R.D. 3; substitute rural carrier Cristopher J. Rockwood; city delivery carriers Charles A. Hanson and Craig S. Scribner, Sr.; substitute city delivery carrier Ronald L. Williamson; and Custodian Lynda A. Malzac.

These dedicated civil service workers in Vermont are truly tested by the post office policy first stated by Greek historian Herodotus, "Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of

night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds."

### **House Numbering**

In May 1967, the Outlook Club undertook a community improvement project to devise a house numbering system for the Village of Bristol. Mrs. Kay Johnson was the chairman of this project. Numbered street addresses in Bristol would greatly help the fire department, police, doctors, ambulance, delivery truck drivers, public utilities, telephone directory listings, visitors, and residents themselves find locations much easier.

The house numbering committee met with town officials and the Bristol Postmaster, George F. Whitcomb. All were enthusiastic about the project. Postmaster Whitcomb advised the committee regarding U.S. Postal Service regulations for numbering.

A town survey was done, map prepared, residents' names listed, and house numbers assigned and distributed by February 1968. Many different individuals and groups in the community helped with the project.

When city mail delivery was started in November 1968, the value of this Outlook Club project was recognized once again.

## IV Other Businesses

In this section, we have obtained information on the businesses which are located within Bristol but are not on Main Street. Most of this information comes from the current owners of the various businesses.

### Bristol Herald

The *Bristol Herald* was established in May of 1879 by Myron F. Wilson, assisted by his three sons, Myron W., James, and Ben, in rooms over Bush and Patterson's store on Main Street. A fourth son, Preston K. soon joined the endeavor.

The second *Herald* office was in the Drake-Farr Block on Main Street and the third on South Street. The paper was always printed under the firm name of Wilson Brothers but before it had reached its fiftieth anniversary, Ben and Preston K. had died and James' son, Donald J. had entered the firm.

In the spring of 1929, the *Herald* was sold to Ralph Merritt, editor of the Middlebury Register, and the two papers were published in Middlebury by the Middlebury Register and Bristol Herald Company, Inc.

In 1934, the *Brandon Union* joined these two papers and the publishing company was then known as the Otter Valley Press. In 1947, the *Bristol Herald* was sold to Rockwood Publications of Vergennes.

Myron W. died in 1930, James in 1941, and Donald J. in 1963.

Information received from the Department of Libraries (Documents) in Montpelier indicates their files contain microfilm copies of the *Herald* published from 1880 through August 15, 1947, as well as January 1953, and February 1953, issues. Publication resumed in December of 1974 and

monthly issues were printed in January 1975, and February 1975.

From the front page of the December 5, 1974 issue:

"With this issue, the *Bristol Herald*, which has been dormant for well over a decade, resumes publication under new staffing and ownership. The *Herald* will contain regular reports by correspondents from surrounding towns: Monkton, Lincoln, Starksboro, New Haven as well as Bristol. Besides covering local news from these towns the *Herald* will also run feature articles on area subjects, historic sites and town and village affairs in much the same manner as its predecessor and namesake, which was begun by Myron Wilson in 1879."

From the front page of the February 27, 1975 issue:

"...the spirit of enthusiasm, high hopes and dedication of the staff were no match for the economic realities that simply overwhelmed the undertaking. The decision to suspend publication was not ours to make. It was made by forces beyond our control."

The editor was David Robinson and published every Thursday by Enterprise and Vermonter Publishing Company in Vergennes. An editorial office was maintained at 7 Main Street in Bristol.

Since 1975, the *Bristol Herald* has not been published.

In 1890, three years before he died in 1893, Myron F., the founder of the *Bristol Herald* conceived the idea of utilizing the iron arch from the one-hundred-twenty-five year old Tuff hand press which he had used for many years, as a base for the marble headstone set on the Wilson family plot in Greenwood Cemetery. This did in fact take place and can be seen there today.

Information compiled from the *History of Bristol, Vermont*, First Edition and Second Edition and from the Vermont Department of Libraries (Documents) in Montpelier.

### The Bristol Press

After leaving the *Bristol Herald*, Donald J. Wilson started his own commercial printing business in 1935. This was known as the Bristol Press and was located in the rear of Way's Hardware Store on the south side of Main Street, the present location of Thomas Sporting Goods.

In 1938, he moved the business to his home on Maple Street.

Donald E. joined his father in 1945 and represented the fourth generation of this printing family. They modernized the printing plant, added automatic machinery and additional buildings.

In 1953, a silk screen plant was added known as "Vermont Silk Screen Co."

Lyndon Fish came to work for the Wilsons in May 1955. At that time, the Wilsons were operating two separate businesses: The Bristol Press under Donald J. Wilson and Vermont Silk Screen Co. under Donald E. Wilson. The businesses were incorporated on January 5, 1959 under the name: "Bristol Press and Vt. Silk Screen, Inc."

Mr. Fish, having studied at the School of Practical Art in Boston, started out in the silk screen business under Donald E. (deceased July 1961) and Jack Wendel.

After the death of Donald J. in January 1963, the corporation was dissolved on August 5, 1963. Mr. Fish leased the business for two years until his purchase of the same in 1965 from Anna Wilson, widow of Donald J.

Since more letterpress and offset work was being done, in 1966, the silk screen business was discontinued due to limited space, expense and general economics. The name of the business reverted back to its original name, The Bristol Press, as it is known in 1980. The firm now specializes in letterpress and offset job printing at the same site at 58 Maple Street.

Patrick Little and Charles Hanson worked full time for Fish when he first



purchased the business. Laura Rathbun worked eight years for Mr. Fish.

Since 1978 when Mr. Little retired, Lyndon Fish and his wife, Jacqueline, have operated the business with part-time help.

Information compiled from the *History of Bristol, Vermont*, Second Edition, and from an interview with Lyndon and Jacqueline Fish.

### **Bristol Market**

The Bristol Market on North Street is owned and operated by John and Shirley Coffey. They purchased the business in 1969 from Mrs. Michael Moore. They have remodeled and enlarged the store, carrying a complete line of groceries, meat, frozen foods, and delicatessen items.

From 1966 to 1969, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Moore owned and operated the grocery and meat store.

Previous to the Moore's ownership, the store was owned and operated by Ceylon Brown from 1938 to 1966 and was known as Brown's Market.

### **The Bristol Motor Inn**

The Bristol Motor Inn, formerly called the Scotsmon's Motor Lodge, is located at the intersection of Routes 17 and 116 in Bristol. It was built in three sections during 1964 and 1965 by Norman MacCauley. Mr. MacCauley was of Scottish heritage and it seems he found the view of Mt. Abraham to the east a reminder of his home country.

In 1969-70 Paul Lamson purchased the property. Several live-in managers, as well as Paul Lamson himself, operated the Scotsmon's.

In October 1973, Robert and Marilyn Stetson bought the motel and managed it as a family business. The motel proved to be a viable addition to the tourist services in Bristol.

In November 1975, Henry and Alice Reimers purchased the property and own it currently. The Reimers also run the motel as a family business and renamed it, "The Bristol Motor Inn." At present eighteen units are available for visitors to the Bristol area and breakfast is served to guests. The Bristol Motor Inn is the only lodging in the town of Bristol.



*Brooks Discount Store off North Street*



*Brown-McClay Funeral Homes, Inc., South Street*

### **The Bristol Trading Post**

The Bristol Trading Post located on Mountain Street is currently owned by Mr. and Mrs. Edward Tucker, Jr. They sell a complete line of new furniture, appliances, carpets, televisions, and baskets.

The Tuckers purchased the building and business from Mr. and Mrs. Howard Gladding in 1975 who also sold appliances, linoleum, new furniture, as well as used furniture.

The Gladdings purchased the building in 1960 from John F. and Paul T. Kennedy who operated a business under the name of Kennedy Brothers. Their main business was a large and varied line of woodenware and pottery, all of which was manufactured there.

The Kennedy Brothers were in business in Bristol from 1943 to 1960 when they moved to Vergennes.

Prior to 1943, a Ford Sales and Service Garage was owned and

operated by Ralph W. Shadrick at the Mountain Street location.

### **Brooks Discount Store**

Brooks Discount Store now occupies the sixty by one-hundred foot building, the former site of the Grand Union store, on part of the old Bristol Inn property.

After the Grand Union store moved to new and larger quarters in 1976 and after renovations had been made, the store was then leased by Antonio Pomerleau (the present owner) to Lee's Niagara Drug Corporation of Pawtucket, Rhode Island, who have since operated there under the name Brooks Discount Store.

The store sells drugs, patent medicines, vitamins, beauty-aids, and general merchandise usually sold in drug stores as well as miscellaneous household items.

Jan Pierce is the present manager.



## **Brown-McClay Funeral Homes, Inc.**

The first funeral business in Bristol was established by Mervin P. Varney in 1878 in connection with a furniture store located in a building where the Ben Franklin Store on the south side of Main Street now stands in the Patterson Block.

About the same time, Smith W. Hatch also opened a funeral business along with his furniture store. It was located in the three-story building on the south side of Main Street, the most easterly part of which now houses a restaurant (Mr. Bumble's Pub) and apartments and is known as the Hatch Block.

After the death of Smith W. Hatch in 1897, the furniture and funeral businesses were sold to Ryland F. Hatch. In 1914, he sold his funeral business to the Varney Funeral Home and in turn purchased the Varney furniture business.

Upon the death of Mervin P. Varney in 1907, his son, Enoch Warner Varney, assumed control. This establishment burned in the 1924 Main Street fire and the business was relocated on South Street in what had previously been a harness shop. Later that building became part of the present funeral home structure.

On October 24, 1945, E. W. Varney sold the funeral business to Gordon and Wilma Brown. In 1961, they purchased the adjoining Colonial Theater building site and expanded the facilities to its present size.

They purchased the William Larrow Funeral Home in Vergennes in 1954 and operated there under that name. James McClay, of Vergennes, was employed at that time and operated the business at the Vergennes site. The Russell Gaunya Funeral Home, also in Vergennes, was purchased in 1956. That facility was closed and the two businesses were merged and continued operation under the name of the Larrow Funeral Home.

In 1965, Larry Gile of Bristol became associated with the business.

The Bristol and Vergennes funeral businesses were incorporated on January 1, 1977, under the name of Brown-

McClay Funeral Homes, Inc., with the Browns, McClays, and Giles as stockholders. At present both the Vergennes and Bristol funeral establishments operate under that title.

The information above was prepared from material supplied by Gordon Brown.

## **Clark's Greenhouse**

Clark's Greenhouse, on the east side of North Street, was established in 1957 by Mrs. Grace Clark as a florist shop. She also sold vegetable and flower plants. It continues today as a seasonal plant outlet. In 1977, the retail florist end of the business was sold to Sand & Pots, a florist shop on Main Street under the ownership of Sandy Murphy and Patricia Jackman.

## **Filling and Service Stations**

*Chevron Station:* The Chevron Station, located on the corner of Munsill Avenue and West Street, is owned by the Morgan Oil Corporation of Shoreham presently and was bought by them in 1977. From 1951 to 1977, it was owned by the Robinson Oil Company; and from 1946 to 1951, it was owned by John and Carolyn Tudhope. In 1946 and prior, it was owned by Anatole and Lumina Quesnel.

*Exxon Station:* The Corkins Brothers Exxon Station is owned and operated by Keith, Douglas, and Kevin Corkins. It is located on the northwesterly corner of Maple and West Streets. It was bought by the Corkins brothers in July 1976. From June 1973, to July 1976, Robert and Kathryn Menard owned and operated the station under the name, Menard & Sons Exxon. From December 1971, to June 1973, Wesley and Judith Holler owned the station. William and Leona Phelps owned the garage from June 1956, to December 1971. From August 1938, to June 1956, Earle and Florence Kneeland owned it. In August 1938, and prior Chester and Evelyn Benway were the owners.

*Gulf Station:* The Gulf Service Station had its beginning in the fall of 1956. It was located on the south side of West Street, opposite the Park.

Arthur and Blanche Marsh sold their property to Tremarco Corporation, existing under the laws of the

State of Delaware with place of business in City, County, and State of New York, in August of that year.

Tremarco Corporation moved the house to the rear of the property and erected a garage and gas pumps in its place. Gulf gasoline and other related products were sold. Mechanical work was done by all succeeding operators.

Roger Audet was the first to lease the business. In July 1958, Hugh Hallock and Lawrence (Larry) Grace took over the operation. They were there until April 1965, when Onon Kimball became the new operator. Due to the poor health of Mr. Kimball, his son Albert carried on from 1968 to December 1969, when a fire gutted the station. It was never rebuilt.

*Mobil Station:* During the days of World War I, Allen P. McKinnon was a young boy in Bristol. He acquired the nickname "Sam" and it stuck. Sam has been a favorite "gas man" over the years.

In 1929, he helped Harry Adams, a contractor from Burlington, build the station on the north side of Main Street opposite the Hatch Block. The land, building, and business were owned by Standard Oil Company of New York, later to become Socony Vacuum Oil Company.

Sam started working there in 1931 when gasoline sold for seventeen cents a gallon and wiper blades were thirty-five cents.

In 1935, he became an independent dealer through a lease with Socony Vacuum and remained at the same site until the summer of 1979 when he closed the doors and went out of business. The building remains boarded up and future plans for the site are uncertain.

When the station closed, Sam said, "I'm going to miss everybody, but I'll be around." We are mighty glad he is. Sam is semi-retired and still does car inspections and sells automotive parts from his residence on Spring Street. The outside light fixtures from his station adorn his barn/garage as a reminder of his 48 years on Main Street.

Information compiled from a feature article in the *Valley Voice*, Middlebury, Vermont, dated July 11, 1979, and from an interview with Sam McKinnon.



**Texaco Station:** During the late 1920's, Martin A. Rider and V. I. Patnode operated a gas station known as Park Filling Station in the small building immediately to the west of the station on West Street as we know it today. This was the site of the second filling station in town.

Mr. Patnode sold his interest in the business to Mr. Rider on April 30, 1929, and the partnership was formally dissolved on May 1, 1930.

A lease from Elmer H. Boynton and Charles E. Hathorne (plumbing and heating) to A. J. Blackmer states: "... the first room on the first floor being the same that was formerly occupied by E. F. Burritt as a work and paint shop, with the privilege to erect a covering or canopy in front of said room of the edge of the sidewalk at his own expense and also the privilege to establish 2 gas tanks in front of said room for 5 years from June 1, 1927 . . . ."

It is believed these premises were the site of the first gas station in Bristol. In turn, said lease was assigned by Blackmer to Grover C. Langeway and Harry Bouvier, who operated there for a short period of time, and further assigned by Langeway and Bouvier to Martin A. Rider on July 1, 1930.

In 1930, Martin A. Rider expanded the business and used the leased portion at 5 West Street as his office and newsstand; the small building remained the station and Rider continued operations until his death on May 14, 1936. His widow, Katherine Rider, carried on the business until March 29, 1937 when she conveyed the property to Ralph A. Elliott and F. Raymond Churchill. Also in March of 1937, the small building reverted back to a plumbing and heating shop operated by the partnership of Claude LaRocque and John Dalton under a lease from Elliot and Churchill. In succeeding years, said leased premises have been operated by Allen Fleming, son-in-law of Dalton; Bruce Bissionette; and presently Adams & McDonald, plumbing, heating, and electrical contractors.

The larger premises at 5 West



*McKinnon's Mobil Station — built in 1929; closed in 1979*



*Grand Union Store — behind Main Street*

Street were leased from 1937 to 1942 by Elliott and Churchill to Wendell Brown and Lawrence Bristol. They used the easterly part of the structure as the office and newsstand and the western part as the garage with pumps in front.

Leland and Nina Landon became proprietors in 1942 and continued until 1968.

From 1968 to 1975, Wendell and Sue Brown were the leasees. The building was firebombed in 1970. The office section was destroyed and rebuilt. The garage and shop areas were slightly damaged.

George Apgar operates Park Filling Station at present and has done so since 1975.

The land and buildings are presently owned by F. R. Churchill & Sons, Inc., of Middlebury, Vermont.

Park Filling Station has always been a Texaco station and early and

current photographs reveal the bright red star as part of its logo. It has been a favorite gathering place for news and camaraderie.

Compiled from information contained in the Bristol Town Clerk's office and interviews with Leland Landon, Wendell Brown, and Frank Churchill.

### **Grand Union Store**

Prior to 1961, the Grand Union store was located on the north side of Main Street in the Way Block. These premises are currently occupied by Burke Real Estate and Country Insurance.

After the main building of the Bristol Inn was torn down, a new building approximately sixty by one-hundred feet was constructed at the rear of the property (northerly side) by the owners Earl and Geraldine M. Laviana with a large parking lot on the corner of Main and North Streets.



These premises were then leased to Grand Union Store, Inc. of Vermont in April of 1961 and a Grand Union store operated there until 1976. In August of 1975, the property was sold to Antonio Pomerleau.

During the fall of 1975, Antonio Pomerleau constructed a new and larger building at the northeast corner of the intersection of North and Main Streets in Bristol (behind the site of McKinnon's Mobil Station). This new store was then leased to Grand Union Company and they began operations there on February 14, 1976, under the management of Douglas Dion, who was also manager at the two previous locations.

### **Green Mountain Nursery**

Green Mountain Nursery had its origin back in the late 1700's. At that time, French families came down from Quebec and settled in the area between Lake Winona (Bristol Pond) and what is now Bristol Village. Along with the more traditional forms of farming, a large orchard was developed ultimately covering about four-hundred acres.

Around 1900, the orchard started to be cut back and by 1910, it no longer existed. However, one tree of each variety was planted in a plot behind the house built in 1900 at what is now 90 North Street. The plot comprised some forty-three trees with seven different varieties of apples among which were Baldwin, Jonathan, Winesap, Greening, and Cortland, all of which were forerunners of their modern-day counterparts.

Over succeeding years, the orchard became overgrown and was non-productive by 1940. In 1966, Richard and Marles Railton purchased the property from Mrs. Oscar (Ebba) Nelson. After constructing a commercial greenhouse, they cleared the orchard, pruned the trees, and began an aerial spraying program. By 1970, the trees were again producing a commercial crop which has been sustained since then with an average production of one-hundred-twenty-five to one-hundred-fifty bushels per year.

As of 1980, along with the orchard and greenhouse, two other commercial operations function from the same site and it is still called Green Mountain Nursery. One operation involves a nursery with the emphasis on Colorado blue spruce trees and upright yews and the other is a wholesale toy distributorship.

The information above was prepared from material supplied by Richard Railton.

### **Gus A. Kusch, Chair Caning-Rush Weaving**

Gus A. Kusch and Helen A. Kusch came to Bristol in 1947 from Long Island, New York. In the beginning, they produced woodenware and Christmas decorations. Fifty years of chair caning experience has led to a year-round occupation for Gus. He also does rush and reed weaving. The wood items have since been abandoned.

Helen Kusch now concentrates on wicker furniture repair and balsam Christmas wreaths at their home in the Rockydale section of Bristol.

### **Hill-Crest Kennels**

In the early 1930's, William and Sarah (Lufkin) Tatro (often referred to as "the Lady with the Dogs") began raising A.K.C. Registered Cocker Spaniels to supplement income from their dairy farm on the Lower Notch Road in Bristol. Expansion came quickly and a dog kennel was built.

After much thought, the registered name of the kennel became Annellous Kennels, a word derived from their three daughters' names.

As the business grew, the vacated one-room schoolhouse at the intersection of Lower Notch Road and Carlstrom Road was also used as a puppy kennel.

At one point, they maintained a herd of fifty goats. The milk produced was fed to the puppies.

As time passed, Norwegian Elkhounds and Miniature and Toy Poodles were added to the variety of breeds. There were at times as many as one-hundred dogs on the premises.

Around 1970, Mrs. Tatro helped her daughter, Ruth Rivers, establish her own kennel farther up the Notch Road. The business continues now under the name of Hill-Crest Kennels.

As time passed, the town grew, and with it came leash laws. This led to a decision to breed only small dogs. Cocker Spaniels, Toy and Miniature Poodles, Chihuahuas, Pomeranians, and Scottish Terriers are raised now.

A fifty-foot long insulated kennel has been built to house the animals. The facility is wood heated. It is a year-round enterprise and presently there are approximately sixty dogs at Hill-Crest Kennels.

The information above was prepared from material supplied by Ruth Rivers.

### **Jackman's Inc.**

On May 3, 1930, the coal business of the former Bristol Railroad Company was sold to Clarence E. Lathrop. One month later, on April 2, 1930, the partnership of Clarence E. Lathrop and Glenn E. Jackman was formed for the purpose of conducting a coal and coke business at Bristol and New Haven. The business was known as the Jackman Coal and Coke Company.

On January 31, 1936, the company incorporated with Clarence E. Lathrop as President; Grace H. Lathrop as Clerk and Secretary; and Glenn E. Jackman as Vice President and Treasurer. At this time, the company acquired, purchased, and sold coal, coke, wood, and other fuels.

In 1945, the Lathrop stock was sold to the corporation operated by Glenn E. Jackman, President; Ila S. Jackman, Treasurer; and Frances A. Palmer, Clerk and Secretary. A year later, in 1946, Frederick E. Jackman, son of Glenn E. and Ila S. Jackman, joined the business. He became Treasurer of the corporation in 1947 after the resignation of Ila Jackman. At this time, oil was added to the products sold and wood was dropped.

In May 1950, another son, Glenn F. Jackman joined the family business, and in October of that year Glenn E. Jackman died. On July 1, 1963, Frances (Palmer) Kneeland retired,



and Glenn F. Jackman was appointed Secretary of the corporation.

In February 1964, the name of the company was changed to Jackman's Inc.; and in 1967 coal was no longer sold.

After the deaths of Ila S. Jackman in 1968 and Glenn F. Jackman in 1974, new corporation officers were named. As of March 1975, and up to the present the officers of Jackman's Inc. are Frederick E. Jackman, President; Peter Jackman, Vice-President; Joan B. Jackman, Secretary-Treasurer; and Paul Jackman, Director.

Jackman's Inc. has an office and storage buildings located off Pine Street between 28 and 30 Pine Street and a truck storage building located at 25 Main Street, Bristol. The company supplies oil fuel and bottled gas at present.

Ralph J. Jackman, brother to Frederick E. Jackman, operates a separate family oil heating business out of Vergennes which is called Jackman Fuels Inc.

Information compiled by Frederick E. Jackman.

### **Jeffers' Farm and Garden Center**

Jeffers' Farm and Garden Center, located on the west side of North Street adjacent to the old Bristol Railroad Station, and operated by Dan and Frances Jeffers, started in 1940 on a small scale. In 1971, a new garage-type building was erected to house retail sales. The business has expanded over the years to include gardening supplies as well as vegetable and flower plants

for summer gardens. Produce for eating, canning, and freezing is available at harvest time. All this is done on two acres of land by a couple who are spending their retirement years "tilling the soil."

### **Lyon Hardware and Building Supply**

Lyon Hardware and Building Supply is located at the intersection of West and Liberty Streets in a building erected in the 1920's by Harry Jimmo. (See Recreation and Entertainment section, Japanese Dance Garden, in this book for more information.) Lyon Hardware and Building Supply is owned by Denton L. Lyon who purchased the hardware business from James and Prudence Tomasi in 1977.

Since 1977, approximately six-hundred square feet of former garage and storage area have been converted into retail sales area. The interior of the store and the displays have been modernized. The hardware line has been expanded.

In addition, an adjoining ten-thousand square foot structure has been built to house additional lumber and building materials to anticipate the needs of the area.

The business now has four employees.

### **Peter A. Nelson Memorials, Inc.**

Peter A. Nelson, Sr., established a cemetery memorial business at 43 East Street in Bristol in 1923. After his mar-

riage in 1926 to Annie Chalmers, she joined him as a partner in the business and handled the office procedures.

Early memorials were made of marble and later the line included granite.

Mr. Nelson moved the business to a large tract of land on West Street in 1947. The business was incorporated in 1950 and became Peter A. Nelson Memorials, Inc., at which time his two sons, Carl A. Nelson and Peter James Nelson formally joined their parents in the business.

In 1960, Peter A. Nelson, Sr., and his wife retired, and the business has since been managed and operated by Carl A. Nelson, assisted by his wife, Charlotte, and their youngest son Neil Andrew Nelson at the site on West Street.

### **Pine Tree Farms**

Pine Tree Farms, owned and operated by Francis and Diane Hefferman, with the help of their children and others, has approximately four-hundred acres today. It is a dairy farm and truck garden and has three greenhouses. Produce is sold at their stand. More details are included in the Farm section of this book.

### **Vermont Sprout House, Inc.**

The Vermont Sprout House, Inc., was built at 10 North Street in 1977 by John and Susan Tomasi. Alfalfa sprouts are grown and packaged at this location and then distributed throughout New England.

## V Farms

Farming has played a major economic role in the history of Bristol and continues to affect the present economics of the area. Following are write-ups, many of them written by the owners, on most of the Bristol farms in existence today.

### Burpee Farm

The formerly owned farm of J. W. Rockwood had three plots of land both sides of the Burpee Road. He operated a cider mill across the road from the present Rose Morales residence. At various times it was owned by Larrow Brothers, Bolducs, Provonchors and was purchased in 1934 by James and Dorothea Burpee.

It is not known how old the house is but it has two-inch plank walls and partitions. The fireplace was built by an eighty-four-year-old man, Mr. Agan, of old brick from Elliot's mill. The chimney up through the attic was built by Dorothea Burpee.

Additional land was purchased on the east side of the road by James, Dorothea, and Christopher Burpee.

In 1972, Christopher and his wife, Bonnie Tucker Burpee, built a house on a three-acre plot off the Burpee farm located on the east side of the road.

The silo was erected in 1978. The original barn burned in 1979. A new barn was constructed the same year on a new site on the east side of the road. The water supply was found by a dowser and said to be adequate for the town.

There were thirty cows on the farm when purchased by the Burpees and now there are ninety.

Written by Dorothea Burpee.

### Burritt Farm

George and Laura Burritt moved to Bristol Flats in 1951 after they purchased one-hundred-sixty-nine acres more or less from Leonard Paquette.

Mr. Burritt has torn down the old barn and replaced it with a new free stall including a milking parlor to house his eighty head of cattle.

In early days this was known as the Hasseltine farm. It was also operated for many years by Fred Smith followed by his son Maurice.

### Butler Farm

This six-hundred-acre farm located on Route 116 in South Bristol is one of the fine producing farms in Bristol. "Butler Farm" owned by Harold Butler since 1946 has expanded and mechanized to keep up with the changing times. For about seventeen years, Arthur Butler was co-owner with his brother.

The Butler Brothers set up a small sawmill on the farm for home and custom work.

Lands of former adjoining farms, namely Julius Morse, Oscar LaFrance, Dewey Sumner, Cullen O'Bryan/Robert Willey and Butterfield farms, have been added to the original one-hundred-twenty acres purchased from Maurice Niles.

After the barn burned in 1965, a free stall was built. It accommodates over two-hundred head of cattle including one-hundred-thirty grade milk cows.

Because of the springtime demands of the farm, sugaring is done in a lesser degree now. However, the

old sugar house and bucket method is still used.

Larry and Jerry Butler presently manage the farm with their father.

### Choiniere Farm

The dairy farm owned by Mark and Elizabeth Choiniere since 1965 is located three miles out of Bristol Village. It lies west of Hardscabble Road and on both sides of the Plank Road leading from Bristol to New Haven; the south side being in New Haven and the north in Bristol.

It includes the original Alfred Ferguson farm. Mr. Ferguson purchased three parcels of land, the first in 1857 of Corney Buttles; 1864 adjacent land of Calvin Eaton; 1867 land from Patrick and Catherine Leonard. Cattle and sheep were raised. Milk, butter, cheese, and vegetables were sold to Bristol Inn.

The farm was divided between sons Wright and Edwin Ferguson in the early 1900's when Alfred, with his wife, Jerusha Wright Ferguson, moved into the Village. Wright had the part on the south side of the Plank Road and Edwin the part in Bristol.

In August 1911, the buildings were struck by lightning and the cattle barn and house burned. They were not rebuilt. However, a small building moved some years later from Bosworth land in the Village was used as a summer residence.





Edwin and his wife, Huldana Brooks Ferguson, sold the farm in April 1948, to Kermit and Marjorie Cox. At this time a large cattle barn and a house were built.

In 1957, the Cox's sold the farm to Emile Choiniere who for the past eighteen years had already owned the farm that had been Wright Ferguson's. The Choinieres retained the land but sold the Wright Ferguson house and barn to Ralph Hatstat.

After the decease of Emile Choiniere, the farm was sold to his son Mark. The Choinieres have continually mechanized their farm to keep it running efficiently. Farming, Mark believes, hinges on the weather. It can yield him bumper crops or a disaster.

### Estey Farm

Mr. and Mrs. Fenwick Estey, with their three boys and four girls, moved to Vermont from Massachusetts to live on this farm in the Hardscrabble area in 1939. The owner then was Ford Thomas for whom they ran the farm until March 1944, when it was purchased by the Estey family. It consisted of approximately two-hundred-seventeen acres until 1961, when about one-hundred-fifty acres more was added by purchase of lands from Henry Babcock.

The farm was previously owned by Harley Holcomb, Dr. Harold Williamson (father of the present Dr. H. E. Williamson), Elmer Jennings, and Ora and Mary Vadnais. At one time there were three houses on "the hill."

Horses were used in 1939, and for several years thereafter, along with a John Deere tractor. This tractor had rubber tires, one of the first in Addison County. Two wooden upright silos have been replaced by two bunker silos. Equipment has been updated to include a dumper wagon and other pieces of equipment.

In 1939, there were approximately thirty-five cows and fifteen heifers. Today there are eighty cows and fifty heifers.

A barn fire in 1976 destroyed the hay barn, milking parlor, and tool shed. There is still much rebuilding to

be done. The road up the hill has been improved considerably since it was declared a town road.

A television microwave tower was built on the southern part of the farm but was taken down in 1966. This was used to relay signals by both Mt. Mansfield and Plattsburgh, New York.

The farm is now owned by Mrs. Fenwick Estey and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Estey, since the death of Fenwick Estey in 1962. The younger Esteys have six children; most of them live in Vermont.

The farm affords a lovely view of the Adirondack Mountains of New York State and of the South Mountain of the Bristol area, as well as the valleys surrounding the area.

Written by Lelah Estey.

### Fuller Farm

The Fuller Farm is located three miles north of Bristol Village on Route 116, in what used to be known as Chase Hollow, so named for Mr. Chase who owned the farm on the two mile flat. Today the flat stretch of road is commonly known as Fuller's Flats.

It is a three generation farm. Bail C. and Genevieve Fuller first owned the farm in 1909. They raised a small herd of dairy cattle and made maple syrup. There also was a small apple orchard located on the hillside left of the sugar orchard. They had three children, Wayne, Gladys, and Glenn.

In 1947, their son Glenn and daughter-in-law, Carolyn, purchased the farm. They had three sons, Robert, Paul, and Charles. The dairy herd was enlarged to thirty or forty cows. They became well known for their excellent maple syrup. In the early spring, the trees were tapped and steam puffed into the air from the wood-fired evaporator in the sugar house. Many nights were spent boiling sap by lantern light when the sap flow was heavy. Visitors enjoyed the warm hospitality and the sugar on snow and maple sugar always on hand.

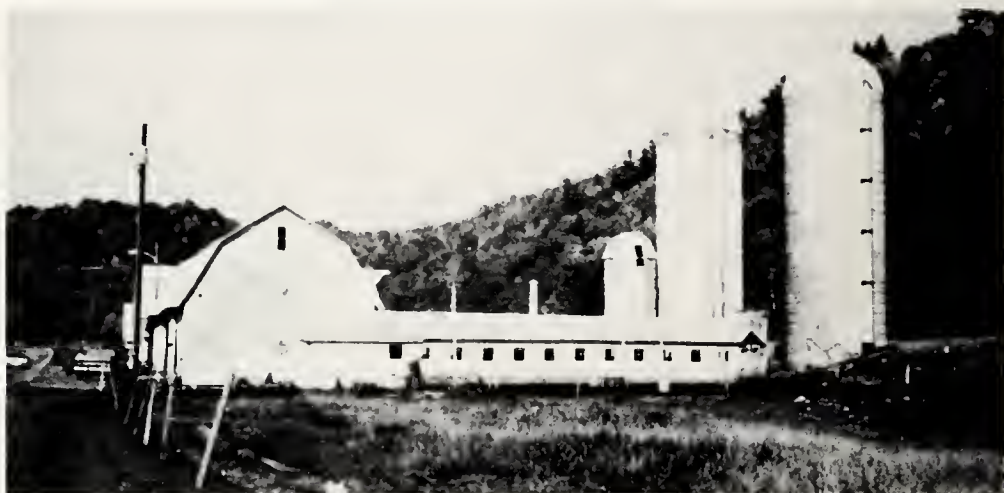
In July 1968, the farm was purchased by their son Robert and his wife, Ramona, who are farming the land today. The dairy herd has been increased to one-hundred-twenty head but the farm has seen few changes. Two new silos and necessary equipment have been added. The sugar house remains the same with no electricity and until three years ago the Fullers had carried on the family tradition of fine maple syrup. About three years ago, the river flooded and washed away the large bridge leading to the sugar house. When the bridge is replaced, they hope to produce maple syrup once more.

Written by Ramona Fuller.

### Heffernan's Pine Tree Farms

Pine Tree Gardens was started in 1931 at the current Charles Shepard property on the corner of North Street

*Fuller Farm on Fuller Flats —  
east of the Village on Routes 17 and 116*





and Plank Road. Two acres of land were given as a wedding present to Dorothy Shiverette Purinton and George Purinton by her mother.

Together they started a truck (vegetable) garden and greenhouse business. In 1936, the Edward Blanchard property became available. It consisted of twelve and a half acres, more or less, on the east side of North Street or the current site of the "home" or original farm house and barn. This was purchased by George and Dorothy Purinton and construction of a farm house was started in 1938. In 1941, the primary business of Pine Tree Gardens was still vegetables and a greenhouse.

As more land on the west side of North Street was acquired, George added a barn, in 1945, and milk cows; and they still continued their previous ventures. In the spring of 1953, the barn burned and was rebuilt as the ashes still smoldered.

Francis Heffernan, who came to live and work with the Purintons at the age of nine, entered the Army in 1954 and upon returning, in 1957, was offered a partnership. It was at this time the name was changed to Pine Tree Farms. An addition to the barn, more cattle, and more land were added shortly thereafter.

In 1959, Francis married Diane Hansen of Brooklyn, New York, and the farm was purchased from George and Dorothy Purinton in January 1962. Growth continued, more room for cattle was needed and in November 1967, the "Douglas Farm" or former Truman and Burt Varney farm located on Monkton Road just north of Hardscrabble Road was purchased.

In 1968, the milking cows were consolidated, a milking parlor and free stall barn were built, and the gardening operation continued but at the new location.

In 1969, a new vegetable stand was built and, in 1973, a new greenhouse at the new location. Another greenhouse was added in 1975 and a third in 1979. As the herd grew, the need for land also grew. In 1974, another parcel of land just north of the home farm became available and was purchased from Rollin and Hazel Devino. In ad-

dition, land is also rented from neighboring landowners.

Pine Tree Farms today has grown to a little over four-hundred acres and still continues as a dairy farm, truck garden, and greenhouses. It is a family operated farm.

Written by Diane Heffernan.

### **Hill Farm**

The Robert J. Hill farm purchased March 1971 from the John Kilbourn estate is shown on old maps as Parmelee property. As it is known today, this dairy farm consists of two-hundred-fifteen acres with a free stall barn. The house, built in 1845, has been renovated to include an apartment.

The Hills have about two-hundred-ten Holstein cows and heifers. The children have twenty-two registered cows. The Hills have four children, Ronald, sixteen; Joanne, fourteen; Brian, nine; and Kevin, four; who are active in 4-H and enjoy showing their cows at the County fairs. They all help with the farm duties.

Written by Jeanette Hill.

Bristol's author, Merritt Parmelee Allen, was born and raised on this farm where his family lived for several generations. He wrote all of his articles and books from the farm until he moved to The Maples on Hewitt Road. Further information is written on Allen under the Prominent Persons section of this history.

### **Hunt Farm**

Lee Hunt was eighteen years old when his family moved to the Bristol Flats farm. His father, Charles Hunt, purchased four-hundred acres from Edwin Eastman, Lee's uncle, for three-thousand dollars in 1928. He had a wagon, dump rake, horses and mowing machine; fifteen to twenty cows were kept. Butter and cheese were made and sold to Middlebury College. For family use and cash, hens and pigs were also raised, berries and apples grown, and

maple syrup was made. There was no electricity when the Hunts first came to the farm.

Five years later Lee's father died. Lee worked on the farm for the next eleven years for his board and room. He then managed it for his mother until her death. It became a dairy farm carrying thirty-five grade cows.

For many years, Lee carried milk in cans from neighboring farms on the Flats, South Bristol, and New Haven Mills to the plant in Middlebury for shipment. By 1958, tank trucks took over picking up milk right at the farm from bulk cooling tanks and trucking it to markets in a matter of hours. At one time there were ten dairy farms on Bristol Flats, today there are three.

Lee Hunt is a direct descendant of the Eastman family, one of Bristol's first settlers.

### **Kilbourn Farm**

Thomas and Janice Kilbourn are now raising a small herd of beef cows on land that has been in his family since 1893.

In 1836, a gentleman by the name of Ira Tucker purchased a parcel of land for the sum of two-hundred dollars. We assume shortly after that, Ira Tucker built the farm house and in January 1893, sold the house and land for two-thousand dollars to Ashbel Dean. One month later, the property was purchased by Thomas' grandfather, John Fitzsimons, who then operated it as a dairy farm.

The Bristol Railroad ran through the Fitzsimons' property and made a stop at a three-cornered building west of the farmhouse. This stop was known as "Tucker's Crossing." The Fitzsimons' grandchildren would ride to the farm from the Village for eleven cents.

In later years, John and Fannie Fitzsimons deeded their farm to their daughter, Marguerite Fitzsimons Kilbourn and her children. Upon the decease of John and Marguerite Kilbourn, the farm was purchased in 1971 by their son Thomas, grandson of John Fitzsimons.

Written by Janice Kilbourn.



## Lathrop Farm

The Lathrop farm, owned and operated by James and Claire S. (Choquette) Lathrop was purchased in 1976 from Daniel and Georgianna LaFrance. This farm is located on both sides of the Carlstrom Road, with the old Marcus Carlstrom farm bordering us to the north and the Ridley farm to the south. The Ridley farm in part is owned and operated by the Saunders. Our deed and many original land descriptions on this road use the name Ridley Road.

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel LaFrance had operated this farm off and on for nineteen years. John Gilmore sold the farm to the LaFrances after he had operated it for close to twenty years. Also, John Gilmore privately purchased this farm from a Mr. Hurlburt.

When we purchased this farm, there were sixteen cows, now we have expanded the operation to forty cows with thirty heifers. The original farm had one-hundred-eighteen acres. Since then, we have purchased twenty-five acres from the old Harvey Hewitt farm and fourteen acres from the Sarah and Bill Tatro estate.

In 1977, we put up a concrete silo followed by another bigger one in 1979. The barn, since our purchase, has been completely refurbished along with the addition of a heifer barn. We produce all our own feed on our land and land rented in and around Bristol.

Written by Claire S. Lathrop.

## Livingston Farm

Philip and Harriet Livingston came from Massachusetts in the late 1950's searching for a larger farm to settle on. They found land cheaper in Vermont. One-hundred-eighty-eight acres plus livestock was purchased from Aubrey and Simone Weaver. The farm, located on Hardscrabble Road, had been in the Weaver family for nearly a century. Charles Weaver purchased it upon his return from service in the Civil War.

In November 1962, the barn was destroyed by fire. It was immediately rebuilt. The farm was enlarged in the early 1960's through the purchase of

adjoining lands from Carl Chamberlain and Guy Blaise.

The Livingstons raise registered cattle and have the prefix "Broadview" on all registrations.

Written by Harriet Livingston.

## Mahannah Farm

Carl Mahannah moved to his farm on Briggs Hill some thirty-five years ago. Forty head of cattle were kept. Each spring eight-hundred buckets were hung in the maple orchard. Carl and his wife came from Connecticut where he had a farm and milk route. Unable to carry on the farm due to failing health, Mr. Mahannah presently rents his pasture land, meadows, and barns to Herbert Parker.

The farm was purchased from Almon Norton who moved there in 1913 from Starksboro. Owner before Almon Norton was Bill Briggs. Mr. Norton carried it on as a dairy farm. The next farm owned by his brother, Henry Norton, reverted to Almon upon the decease of Henry and his wife. The house burned.

Mr. Mahannah also purchased the adjacent Odell Estes farm. Mr. Estes ran a cider mill for a time.

dison County. After years of farming loam soil in New Jersey, we decided to purchase this farm due to the rich loamy soil, rather than farms in other areas.

Due to the high-rising taxes, urban development, and future outlook for farming in New Jersey declining, we decided to move to Vermont with our five children, farm machinery, and seventy milk cows. Since that time, two older children, Brad and Sue, have left the farm for other occupations.

Our three sons, Abe Jr., Dave, and John continue to stay home on the farm. Due to their interests in farming, the family has expanded the amount of animals to over two-hundred-sixty head, milking about one-hundred-twenty-five and about one-hundred-thirty-five head of young stock, calves and heifers. We also rent some nearby land, and last fall purchased a one-hundred acre tract of land in Monkton.

We have had to expand buildings to take care of our needs. We built a garage and workshop where all maintenance work on tractors, machinery, and trucks are done by David, who seems to excel in this line of work.

Abe Jr. does most of the fertiliz-



*Mierop's Lake Winona Farm — Monkton Road — aerial view*

## Mierop's Lake Winona Farm

Lake Winona Farm was purchased in the fall of 1968 from Paul and Alice Cousino.

It was through friends of a similar background and the Christian Reformed Church now located in Vergennes, Vermont, that Abe and Margaret Mierop began looking for land in Ad-

ing, planting, spraying, and harvesting of crops with the help of the other boys and Mr. Mierop.

John does a lot of feeding animals, caring for calves, cleaning barn, helping with the gathering of crops, and anything else needed to be done.



It takes more managing than work to keep everything running smoothly and this is done by Mr. Mierop with the help of the family.

A new free stall barn was added in the summer of 1978. This is a great improvement to our heifer-raising program. We raise all our own herd replacements using Eastern Artificial Insemination Cooperative as our source for herd improvement. We also use DHIA testing once a month.

Abe Jr., David, and Mrs. Mierop do the milking two times daily. Average pounds of milk varies between ten-thousand to eleven-thousand every other day.

We attribute a lot of success to our fine Harvestore System which helps us to gather our haylage in fine shape and get it off fast so we can get about four good cuttings a growing season of alfalfa.

At present an addition of fifty-two feet is being constructed on the main cow barn to house at least twenty more milk cows and a bunk silo to hold more corn silage.

Written by Margaret Mierop.

### **David Purinton Farm**

David and Regina Purinton purchased the so-called "Meehan Farm" in 1974 from Robert and Elsie Purinton. The Meehan farm is approximately one-hundred-fifty years old.

The Purintons purchased it in 1953 from Robert Levesque. In 1954, they erected a "modern" barn with steel stanchions and indoor plumbing with a bulk tank and milking machines. The original barn, which still stands, consisted of wooden stanchions and an outdoor water tub. The milk was kept cool in milk cans inside an ice house.

Robert Levesque purchased the farm from F. O. Dutton. Dutton farmed it for only two years. During the two years he owned it, he logged three-hundred-thousand feet of timber. He sold the farm two years later for more than he purchased it for. Dutton logged with horses and used a cross-cut saw.

Dutton purchased the farm from Charles and Eddie Meehan. The

Meehans were the first owners to purchase a tractor, plow, and harrows, for eight-hundred dollars. Today the same would cost, at the least, twelve-thousand dollars.

The Meehans had a five-thousand tap sugar bush, which Dutton logged off. We now have four-hundred taps.

Many changes have taken place since the Meehans owned the farm. We use artificial insemination instead of a bull for reproduction. Through selected use of the best bulls, we have larger animals than the new barn was built for. Therefore, we are remodeling and putting in wider and longer comfort stalls. We have registered Holsteins instead of grade cows.

We have erected a new twenty by sixty foot concrete silo, with an automatic unloader instead of wooden silos which were unloaded by hand.

We feed a total mixed ration. Each cow is fed a balanced diet. The feed is blended inside a mixer cart with vitamins and minerals.

We are on a computerized accounting system. So, many changes have taken place since Charles and Eddie Meehan farmed here.

Written by Regina Purinton.

### **Robert Purinton Farm**

Traveling north from Bristol toward Starksboro, one will find the Purinton Farm situated high on a hill. It is believed to be the oldest farm in Bristol continuously run by the same family for four generations.

It has been operated by Scott Purinton and his wife, Amanda, for a year. Scott's parents, Robert and Elsie, operated it for thirty-one years before him. Robert's father, Ralph, operated it for thirty-two years before him. And before Ralph's time, it was owned by his father, Nelson. It is interesting to note that Ralph and Robert were both born in the same bedroom in the farm house.

The farm is a fertile loam abundant with rocks. The many stone walls and stone piles speak for the toil of clearing the meadows.

It is about the period from 1948 to 1979 that I am writing. That seemed to

be the age of change for agriculture. In 1948, there were three horses and one small tractor. Over the years, the tractors increased in horsepower and numbers until there were seven plus a bulldozer. The horses gradually faded out of the picture. Their stalls and hay were needed for milk-producing animals.

The hay was all handled by hand. It was "tumbled" behind a dump rake. A few years later, it was side-delivery raked and loaded by a hay loader. Around 1950, came the first hay baler which was a bulky, noisy rig. It was always breaking down. Eventually the balers were perfected, and then came kickers so that the bales were thrown into the wagons automatically. Conveyors and elevators took the place of the pitch fork to get the hay into the far corners of the barn.

This farm grew from two small silos to four large ones. The last one, erected in 1977, holds one-thousand tons of corn! The corn used to be pitched by hand and it was back-breaking work. Now, it is all handled automatically by choppers and blowers. The farmer clearly has had to become more of a mechanic.

Beginning in the 1950's, the cost-price squeeze caught the farmer in its grip and everywhere the little farmers went out of business. The remaining ones had to become larger and, hopefully, more efficient. This farm branched out into the poultry business to produce added income. Hatching eggs were produced for a New Hampshire hatchery for eighteen years. This required a flock of five-thousand layers. So a new four-story hen house was built using lumber raised on the farm and sawed on Robert's portable saw mill. This farm grew from two-hundred-fifty acres to over one thousand. It then became known as Purinton Farms. It grew from forty cows to over three-hundred-fifty registered Holsteins.

In 1948, a cow which gave forty pounds of milk a day was considered to be quite an animal. In 1978, due to artificial insemination and better feeding programs, many cows are capable of producing over one-hundred pounds a day. The most exciting event upon the



horizon right now is the process of ovarian transplants in cattle. With the best cow producing the ova and any ordinary cows being the recipients, or "nurse cows," a farmer could build a herd of excellent cattle in a matter of a few years. Before it has taken many men a lifetime of selective breeding to do this.

It was a good day when the smelly old milk cans gave way to the modern stainless steel bulk tanks. The flavor of milk improved as well as the cleanliness. This particular farm grew from nine cans of milk to a two-thousand-five-hundred gallon bulk tank, which washes and dries itself!

In an effort to combat the rising price of grain, this farm installed a mix mill and the grain was mixed and ground at home. This opened up a new field of balancing rations and feeding formulas. More studying for the tired farmer!

The planting of crops became increasingly more scientific. Insect control as well as soil nutrients had to be studied. During the past thirty years, labor became always harder to find and more expensive to keep. The farm has had to become more mechanized and the farmer more adept at "fixing" all his labor-saving machines.

In our Grandfather's time, anyone with strong muscles and a love of animals could succeed in farming. On today's farms, the man at the helm has to be a businessman, a scholar, a financier, and a master of many trades. The one quality which he must have is a "never-give-up" attitude. He lives in the hope that tomorrow will be better.

The land is good, else why would four generations continue to till it?

Written by Elsie Purinton.

### **Rathbun Farm**

The Rathbun farm was established around 1891 and seventy plus acres were added on May 5, 1913. Reed H. Rathbun moved from Bristol Village to the farm in South Bristol. The farm was later transferred to his son, Henry, on August 15, 1930. He farmed it for thirty-five years.

Henry transferred the farm to Allen, his son, on May 18, 1965. Initially, Allen did not do any dairying.

He had beef animals and bred heifers for several years, while he maintained his job at General Electric in Burlington.

In November 1971, a corn crib was skidded into the woods on the farm from the site of the old homestead. The corn crib was renovated into a camp for weekend use by Allen's family. On May 1, 1972, Allen, his wife, Helen, and their two daughters, JoAnn and Jody, moved to the farm on a trial basis and rented their house in South Burlington for a year. Within months, the family realized they would be staying.

Many changes have taken place. The camp, which became a permanent house, was added on to; and a hay barn and dairy barn were built by Allen. Two sons were born to the family, Joshua and Jeremiah. In November 1977, the dairy was started.

Chores are shared on the farm as Allen still works forty hours a week at General Electric in Burlington. Farming is an enjoyable and satisfying life style. Hopefully this farm will pass on to the next generation!

Written by Helen Rathbun.

### **Saunders Farm**

Allan Saunders has done extensive conservation work with the Agricultural Soil Conservation Service office since first owning his Bristol Flats farm in 1975. Much fertilizer has been added to the lands to improve production; a new silo erected and stanchions in the barn replaced with comfort stalls to make more room so that the farm carries over one-hundred head of cattle.

Improvements to the beautiful old six-column colonial house included painting the exterior, installing a new furnace, and insulating.

The previous owners, Thad and Sadie Lathrop, purchased it in 1940 from Miles Culver. They lived there about five years before their son, Earl Lathrop, took over the management. The Thad Lathrops also owned the Ridley farm on Carlstrom Road since 1926. Lower meadows from the Ridley farm were acquired by Mr. Saunders with the purchase of the Flats farm.

Some earlier owners included the Eddy, Boynton, Abernethy, and Leonard families.

### **Sherman Farm**

The third generation is working this family-owned dairy farm in South Bristol. They have sixty mature milking Ayrshire cows, also heifers and calves. Half of them are registered.

Boundaries of the farm changed with the sale of a wood lot in Bristol Notch in 1949 and the acquisition of pasture land from the Willis O'Bryan farm in 1951. Adjoining land is leased from Earl Gove. An addition to the barn was built in 1979.

Formerly known as the old Art Gove farm, it was purchased by Hollis Sherman in 1939 from Walter Kimball. Following Hollis' death in 1965, ownership was taken over by his son George. Presently George is operating the farm with his son Larry.

### **Tanner Farm**

Lawrence and Joyce Tanner have been on the same farm for the past twenty years. It is located north of Bristol Village on Route 116. Their farm will keep fifty dairy cattle which is the family's main income. The making of maple syrup is a seasonal sideline for the Tanners, but not an extensive one.

The house is very old. At one time it was a half-way house for the stage coach, where they watered horses and changed teams. This farm was owned for many years by Frank Hines and his son Charles.

The Tanners note the decline of the number of farms in late years and feel the impact of urban development on their farmland.

Written by Joyce Tanner.

### **Terrier Farm**

In 1972, Richard and Lydia Terrier with their three children moved to their farm on Route 116 South Bristol. They came from Bridport. Dairying is the principal farm crop.

Formerly owned by Rolan and Rodna Farr, the southern boundary line of this farm borders Elephant Mountain Camping Area.

## VI Government

### Town Government

The original charter of Bristol, Vermont, granted by Governor Benning Wentworth of New Hampshire in 1762, outlines a governmental system still in use today. The charter clearly instituted Town Meetings as a means of local self-government. The Town Meeting still remains the principal governing body of most Vermont towns. It is, in effect, the Town Legislature in which every legal voter is entitled to speak and vote.

The Town of Bristol is governed by a three person Board of Selectmen, who hire a Town Manager. In addition, there is a Town Clerk and Town Treasurer. In Bristol, the major decisions concern town finances. The decisions of the Town Meeting stand recorded by the Town Clerk as the policies which the Selectmen must implement during the ensuing year.

The Board of Selectmen is chosen

by electing one person each year to serve a three-year term. This board is charged with administration of town government between Town Meetings. All appointments to town offices not filled at the Town Meeting are made by the Selectmen. This includes the filling of any vacancies that might occur in town offices or on their own board until the next elections. The Selectmen set all salaries, not decided by Town Meeting, except their own. The basic operational expenses of the town government are itemized in the Selectmen's budget and the amount is voted by Town Meeting. The Selectmen assume responsibility for all financial transactions.

The position of Town Manager was established in Bristol in February 1967. The Town Manager is hired by the Board of Selectmen to supervise the various activities of the town, especially the town departments.

The Town Clerk is elected yearly. The Clerk serves as a recorder of the annual Town Meeting and any other special meetings during the year. She records all current vital statistics, mortgages, deeds, and other town records, and files the records of all other town officials. The Clerk is also the keeper and preserver of all previous town records which are required to be kept in a fire proof vault. She issues a multitude of special licenses.

The Town Treasurer also acts as the School Treasurer. She keeps all accounts of town income and disbursements. Checks are drawn only upon written orders signed by two of the Selectmen. The Town Treasurer prepares and mails all tax bills, and she receives tax monies until the due date.

The Town of Bristol has many other offices and officials. Following is a chart of the various Town positions with an explanation of each one.

Town of Bristol Government — March 1980

Position	Duties	Elected, Hired, or Appointed	Term of Office	Person(s)	Term Expires
Town Moderator	Presides at annual Town Meeting and at any interim meetings.	Elected	One Year	Ernest M. Coddington, Sr.	1981
Town Clerk	Records the annual Town Meeting and other special meetings; keeps all town records; issues special licenses.	Elected	One year	Renia C. Partridge	1981
Town Treasurer	Keeps town accounts; acts as elementary School Treasurer; prepares town tax bills and receives tax monies.	Elected	One year	Renia C. Partridge	1981
Board of Selectmen	Administers the town government between Town Meetings.	Elected	Three years	Francis Heffernan Roy J. Clark William C. Wisell	1981 1982 1983
Town Manager	Supervises the various activities of the town under the directives of the Selectmen.	Hired by Selectmen	----	Rutherford W. Smith	----
Auditors	See that all financial records of the other town officials are examined and verified and then published in the Town Report.	Elected	Three years	George E. Smith Carl A. Nelson Chauncy H. Eldridge	1981 1982 1983



Position	Duties	Elected, Hired, or Appointed	Term of Office	Person(s)	Term Expires
Board of Civil Authority	Charge of all elections, counts ballots, oversees revision of the checklist, hears tax appeals, swears in new officials for which the state requires an oath of office.	Elected	Varies with primary office term.	Selectmen, Town Clerk, Justices of the Peace.	----
Civil Defense Assistant	Helps Civil Defense Director prepare and execute emergency civil defense plans.	Appointed by Selectmen	One year	Bernard Valentine	1981
Civil Defense Director	Prepares and executes emergency civil defense plans.	Appointed by Selectmen	One Year	Richard F. Partridge	1981
Constable, First	Serves as chief law enforcement official for the town and cooperates with county, state, and federal law enforcement officials; presides at Primary and General Elections.	Elected	One year	Richard F. Partridge	1981
Constable, Second	Same as above.	Elected	One year	Lawrence E. Lathrop, Sr.	1981
Dog Officer	Picks up stray dogs.	Appointed by Selectmen	One year	Arthur T. Prime	1981
Dog Pound	Place to house stray animals.	Appointed by Selectmen	One year	Vacant	1981
Energy Coordinator	Checks energy conservation methods, for public or private use.	Appointed by Selectmen	One year	Eugene Swier	1981
Fence Viewers	Decide questions involving the care and maintenance of fences between properties.	Appointed by Selectmen	One year	Felix Cousino Robert Fuller George Sherman	1981 1981 1981
Fire Warden	Issues outdoor burning permits when appropriate; supervises local forest fire fighting activities and files reports of such fires with the State Forester.	Appointed by Selectmen	One year	Claire Lathrop	1981
Health Officer	Oversees health conditions in private residences, public buildings, and businesses.	Appointed by Selectmen	One year	William O'Neill	1981
Inspector of Weights of Coal	Provides certification of coal weight at request of buyer or seller.	Appointed by Selectmen	One year	Andrew Johnson	1981
Inspector of Wood and Lumber	Settles disputes about measurements and quality of wood and lumber.	Appointed by Selectmen	One year	Andrew Johnson	1981
Justices of the Peace	Serve on Board of Civil Authority; take absentee votes from house-bound voters; perform various other detailed duties.	Nominated at party caucuses; elected at General Election	Two years	Eleanor Adams Wendell Brown Stanton Bryden Edward Burke Roy J. Clark Felix Cousino Frederick Jackman William James Carl A. Nelson Kenneth Weston	All 1982

Position	Duties	Elected, Hired, or Appointed	Term of Office	Person(s)	Term Expires
Library Trustees	Oversee the operation of Lawrence Memorial Library and the Lawrence Memorial Fund.	Elected	Five years	John McEvoy Frederick Hoff Evelyn Dike Lillian Lambertson Mary Ann Halnon	1981 1982 1983 1984 1985
Listers	Serve as Tax Assessors; as of April 1 each year, all real and personal property must be appraised to determine its fair market value; file records with Town Clerk.	Elected	Three years	Lester Coffin Janice Kilbourn George Rockwood	1981 1982 1983
Planning Commission	Prepares a Town Plan before a permanent zoning code can be adopted; participates in Regional Planning Commissions.	Appointed by Selectmen	Five-year revolving terms	Susan Hawkins David Sharpe Terry Thomas Christopher Acker Vacancy Frank Buonincontro Andrew Johnson	1980 1980 1980 1981 1982 1983 1984
Pound Keepers	Impound any stray animals in town.	Appointed by Selectmen	One year	Lester Coffin Earl Lathrop	1981 1981
School Directors, Town District	Oversee operation of town elementary schools.	Elected	Three years	Sylvia Coffin Craig Scribner, Sr. Edward Tucker, Jr. Ralph Cook Karen Yager	1981 1981 1981 1982 1983
School Directors, UHS District #28 (Bristol Representatives)	Oversee operation of the union high school, together with the directors from the other four towns.	Elected	Three years	Evelyn Dike Edwin A. Hilbert, Jr. Thomas Yager Carol Eldridge Andrew Johnson	1981 1982 1982 1983 1983
Service Officer	Handles social service needs of residents.	Appointed by Selectmen	One year	Rutherford W. Smith	1981
Tax Collector	Collects all delinquent town taxes plus interest and penalty.	Elected	One year	Richard F. Partridge	1981
Tree Warden	Oversees care and removal, when necessary, of all road-side trees within the town.	Appointed by Selectmen	One year	Paul Fuller	1981
Town Agent to Deed Real Estate	Acts for the town to convey real estate.	Elected	One year	Carl A. Nelson	1981
Town Agent to Prosecute and Defend Suits	Sees that civil cases involving the town are prosecuted and defended.	Elected	One year	Carl A. Nelson	1981
Town Grand Juror	Prosecutes cases against persons charged with a crime committed in the town.	Elected	One year	Carl A. Nelson	1981
<b>TOWN DEPARTMENTS</b>					
Highway Department	Maintains roads throughout the town.	Hired by Selectmen	----	Rutherford W. Smith Town Manager	----
Landfill Department	Supervises activity of the town landfill.	Hired by Selectmen	----	Rutherford W. Smith Town Manager	----
Park Department	Maintains the town park; oversees its use.	Hired by Selectmen	----	Rutherford W. Smith Town Manager	----





*Town and Village Auditors (left to right):  
Carl A. Nelson, George E. Smith, Chauncy H. Eldridge*



*Town and Village Manager —  
Rutherford W. (Hap) Smith*



*Town Selectmen — 1979:  
Roy J. Clark, Francis Heffernan, William O'Neill*



*Village Trustees:  
Frederick E. Jackman, Peter D. Ryan, George M. Tighe*

*Town and Village Clerk and Treasurer —  
Renia C. Partridge*



## Past and Present Town Officials

### Town Managers

1969 to present — Rutherford W. Smith  
 1967 to 1969 — Alden Rollins  
 1967 — William Pinney

### Town Clerks

1979 to present — Renia C. Partridge  
 1973-1979 — Charles F. Lathrop  
 1943-1973 — Ruth V. Clark McCormick  
 1942 — Ruth V. Clark  
 1930-1942 — Leland Landon  
 1929-1930 — Jennie E. Wilson  
 1900-1929 — W. W. Wilson

### Town Selectmen 1979-1899

Roy Clark  
 William O'Neill  
 Francis Heffernan  
 John A. Hise, Jr.  
 Floyd Hall, Jr.  
 Claire Lathrop  
 Glenn Fuller  
 A. F. Johnson  
 R. E. Devino  
 W. A. James  
 Robert O. Willey  
 Peter A. Nelson  
 Fenwick S. Estey  
 A. F. Gove  
 A. P. McKinnon  
 Almon W. Norton

Felix A. Cousino  
 Clarence G. Lathrop  
 R. W. Shadrick  
 O. N. Estes  
 Walter L. Irish  
 M. A. Rider  
 W. M. Farr  
 Ridley Norton  
 Wayne W. Shadrick  
 A. W. Norton  
 C. A. Hanks  
 T. C. Varney  
 E. C. Norton  
 Fred P. Smith  
 W. F. Hammond  
 W. E. Morgan

W. H. Cardell  
 B. C. Fuller  
 D. B. Parmelee  
 C. E. Lathrop  
 C. E. Hathorne  
 H. S. Sumner  
 C. W. Norton  
 C. E. Munsill  
 Andrew Dillon  
 S. D. Farr  
 W. C. Bingham  
 E. C. Dike  
 R. A. Young  
 Fred Landon

## Village of Bristol Government

In addition to the Town of Bristol government offices, there is also the Village of Bristol government offices. The Village government oversees the smaller boundaries of the Village proper. It provides services not required or supported by the Town.

The Village of Bristol, Inc., elects

a Village President who moderates the annual Village Meeting.

Bristol Village is governed by a three person Board of Trustees, who hire a Village Manager. There is also a Village Clerk and Village Treasurer.

Following is a chart of the various village positions with an explanation of each one.

At the end of the chart, there is a listing of Bristol's representatives in the Vermont State Legislature.

The information on Bristol's Town and Village governments was derived from the "Vermont Citizens' Guide to Government in Vermont," published by the League of Women Voters in 1972, from George M. Tighe, Village Trustee, and from Rutherford W. Smith, Town Manager.

## Village of Bristol Government — March 1980

Position	Duties	Elected, Hired, or Appointed	Term of Office	Person(s)	Term Expires
Village President	Serves as president of the incorporated Village of Bristol; moderates the annual Village Meeting.	Elected	One year	Ernest M. Coddington, Sr.	1981
Village Clerk	Records the annual Village Meeting; keeps all village records.	Elected	One year	Renia C. Partridge	1981
Village Treasurer	Keeps village accounts; prepares village tax bills and receives tax monies.	Elected	One year	Renia C. Partridge	1981
Board of Trustees	Administers the village government between Village Meetings; members serve as water commissioners.	Elected	Three years	Frederick E. Jackman Peter J. Ryan George M. Tighe	1981 1982 1983
Village Manager	Supervises the various activities of the village under the directives of the Trustees.	Hired by Trustees	----	Rutherford W. Smith	----
Administrative Officer	Enforces the village zoning regulations.	Appointed by Trustees	One year	Rutherford W. Smith	1981



Position	Duties	Elected, Hired, or Appointed	Term of Office	Person(s)	Term Expires
Auditors	See that all village financial records are examined and verified and then published in the Village Report.	Elected	One year	George E. Smith Carl A. Nelson Chauncy H. Eldridge	1981 1981 1981
Board of Civil Authority	Oversees all village elections, counts ballots, supervises revision of the checklist, and hears tax appeals.	Elected	Varies with primary office term.	Trustees, Village Clerk, village residents on the Town Board of Civil Authority.	----
Fire Wardens	Issue outdoor burning permits when appropriate.	Elected	One year	Harris Brassard Frederick E. Jackman Richard Lathrop	1981 1981 1981
Planning Commission	Prepares a Village Plan and the zoning bylaws; administers the zoning regulations after they are accepted by the Village.	Appointed by Trustees	Five-year revolving terms	Dean Allnutt Raymond Pellegrini John Connolly Prudence Tomasi George E. Smith George Rockwood	1980 1980 1981 1982 1983 1984
Tax Collector	Collects all delinquent village taxes plus interest and penalty.	Elected	One year	Richard F. Partridge	1981
Zoning Board of Adjustment	Grants appropriate variances for projects not in conformity with zoning regulations.	Appointed by Trustees	Five-year revolving terms	Stanton Bryden John Connolly Raymond Pellegrini Patricia Lathrop Marjorie Bushey George E. Smith George Rockwood	1980 1980 1980 1981 1982 1983 1984

#### VILLAGE DEPARTMENTS

Fire Department	Provide fire protection and emergency fire fighting.	Volunteer	Chief has one-year term	Harris Brassard Chief	1981
Police Department	Provide police and safety protection.	Hired by Trustees	----	Ceylon Dearborn Chief	----
Street Department	Maintains roads throughout the Village.	Hired by Trustees	----	Rutherford W. Smith Town Manager	----
Water Department	Oversees the Village waterworks.	Hired by Trustees	----	John C. Smith Foreman	----

#### VERMONT STATE LEGISLATORS

State Senators	Represent the Senatorial District's interests in the State Legislature.	Elected	Two years	Arthur Gibb Seeley Reynolds, Jr.	1980 1980
State Representative	Represents the Representative District's (Bristol's) interests in the State Legislature.	Elected	Two years	John A. Hise, Jr.	1980

#### Past and Present Village Trustees 1913-1979

Peter D. Ryan	Ridley J. Norton	W. Roy LeBaron	E. J. Kneeland	H. L. Williamson
George M. Tighe	John C. Smith	J. A. Bouvier	L. A. Bristol	C. C. Smith
Frederick E. Jackman	Herbert F. Fraser	R. W. Shadrick	R. J. Clark	V. J. Patnode
George E. Smith	Suel C. Sargent	A.W. Norton	T. K. Burnham	C. W. Sprague
R. W. Smith	W. R. Newton	R. C. Martin	W. M. Farr	E. H. Boynton
Charles Berry	W. M. DeCoursey	E. N. Dike	A. M. Russell	F. H. Palmer
Ernest M. Coddling	Kenneth A. Cameron	Claude Larocque	O. E. Wing	C. E. Hathorne
Richard Railton	Peter A. Nelson	A. F. Gove	F. S. Gove	C. A. Burnham
				W. N. Gove

## VII Bristol Cliffs Wilderness Controversy

On January 3, 1975, a law was passed in the Congress of the United States, declaring seven-thousand-four-hundred acres on South Mountain in Bristol to be part of the Bristol Cliffs Wilderness Area. Unfortunately, no one in Bristol had heard about this act of Congress until it was passed, and the land involved included two-thousand-nine-hundred-five acres of private land.

The act marked the first time the Federal Government attempted to reclaim extensively developed land, to return it to its primeval state. Thus, when Bristol Cliffs residents were informed of the act and the restrictions this act placed on the use of their land, a great uproar ensued.

Led by Joseph C. Conowal and

Representative John A. Hise, Jr., an organization called the Bristol Cliffs Landowners' Association sprang into being. Mr. Conowal served as Chairman; the Clerk was Leah Ruth Denton; and the Treasurer was Ruth Lathrop. Members of the "Congressional Committees" were Andrew Johnson, Leah Denton, Janice Cousino, and Lovina Baslow. The organization enlisted the aid of the three Vermont Congressmen, Senator Robert Stafford, Senator Patrick Leahy, and Representative James Jeffords. Also involved were the local legislators, Representative Douglas Baker and Senators Seeley Reynolds and Arthur Gibb, in addition to Representative Hise.

The work of the committee resulted in a Senate Bill, S 2308, which

following hearings on the act that were held in Bristol on September 28 and 29, 1975, was passed in the United States Senate, December 12, 1975. This bill modified the boundaries of the Bristol Cliffs Wilderness Area, eliminating the lands that were privately owned. Bill S 2308 passed the full House of Representatives on April 6, 1976, and on April 17, 1976, President Gerald Ford signed the bill into law, returning full use of the land to the owners.

Information for this article was provided by Leah Ruth Denton; Representative John A. Hise, Jr.; and an article written by Pat Orvis for *The New York Times*, Sunday, October 26, 1975.



## VIII Public Buildings

### Holley Hall

Holley Hall is the name of the present town hall in Bristol. However, the first permanent place used specifically for town meetings was a room in the Bristol High School which was completed in 1856. In 1855, when plans were under way to construct the new high school, the Selectmen provided \$600 towards the cost of the school in exchange for the privilege of a town meeting room in the building.

In 1882, at a special meeting, the residents of the town voted to sell the town room and all its appointments to the school district for \$480. Apparently, the room was unsatisfactory to the townspeople. At the annual meeting, March 6, 1883, it was voted to appoint a committee of three to investigate the matter of building a town hall. Their report, which was to have been given in May, was not given until July. At the meeting at that time, Mrs. Cornelia Holley Smith, daughter of Winter Holley and granddaughter of Robert Holley, who settled in Bristol in 1795, offered to give the town the land on which her father's store had stood. The store was also the post office, and had burned down in 1878. Mrs. Smith gave the land, providing the town would build a town hall on that site within the next three years.

Smith & Allen, contractors from Middlebury, did the work, which began April 23, 1884, and was finished during that summer at a cost of about \$11,000. The brick building with a clock in the belfry, was named Holley Hall, after Mrs. Smith's father. The big room inside, where town meetings are held, has a seating capacity of five hundred.

For many years, it was rented to churches and various organizations whenever a large auditorium was needed. Until 1930, when the school auditorium and gymnasium were built, it was rented to the school for all public gatherings and served for eight years as a place for basketball practice and games. From about 1910 to 1917, Mr.

Flagg of Brandon rented the hall one or two nights a week for moving pictures. In 1930, sound equipment was installed for talking pictures which were shown there for two years.

In 1929, two rooms were finished off in the basement for a Town Clerk's office, and a vault was installed to hold the town records. A cement sidewalk on the north and east sides of the hall was laid at this time.

When the old school building became inadequate to hold the larger number of pupils, a room was finished off in the basement to take care of the overflow. In 1958, this room was no longer used as the addition to the new school on Mountain Street was large enough for the children.

Today, there are offices in the basement for the Town Clerk, the Town Manager, the Police Department, and the Listers. In 1979, the unused portion of the basement, where the jail cells are, was transformed into the Bristol Historical Society's meeting room and museum.



*Holley Hall  
corner of West and South Streets*



*Bristol Town offices  
located in basement of Holley Hall, entrances on South Street*



## Lawrence Memorial Library

The Bristol Library was established on January 20, 1893, when a group of public-spirited citizens met and formed the Bristol Library Association. The library was opened in one room over the Patterson Store in August 1893. It was financed by membership fees of two dollars, yearly tickets of one dollar, private contributions, and public entertainments. A rental collection which aided in financing the projects was also kept.

The first action taken in Town Meeting in regards to a library occurred in March 1901, when fifty dollars was appropriated to help establish a public library. The appropriations were increased to two-hundred dollars in 1902 and 1903. In March 1902, the Bristol Library Association turned over its property, which included one-thousand-ninety-five books and a large collection of magazines to the town. The Bristol Public Library was established.

At the annual Town Meeting in 1910, the townspeople voted to accept the offer of William A. Lawrence to erect a library building and present it to the town. The town voted eight-hundred dollars for the library that same year. The building was completed and dedicated January 17, 1911. It was given in memory of Mrs. Lockie Partch Lawrence, first wife of Mr. Lawrence, and of his second wife, Mrs. Minnie Peet Lawrence, both of whom had been faithful workers in the library association. Mr. Lawrence left to the town real estate consisting of four tenement houses, known as Lawrence Lane, and a two-tenement house beside the library to help finance the library, which has been known since 1911 as Lawrence Memorial Library.

The town appropriates each year a sum of money to help maintain the library. This amount has grown from two-thousand dollars twenty years ago to seven-thousand dollars in 1979. The library is run by a Board of Trustees consisting of five members. The 1979 Board of Trustees included Lawrence Diette, President; Frederick Hoff, Vice President; John McEvoy, Secretary; Lillian Lambertson, Treasurer; and Evelyn Dike.

*Lawrence Memorial Library  
North Street, built in 1911*



*Lawrence Memorial Library Board of Trustees:  
Evelyn Dike, John (Jay) McEvoy, Lawrence Diette, Lillian G. Lambertson  
(Frederick Hoff absent from photo)*

In 1972, one wing of the two-tenement house was torn down, due to disrepair, which made room for an addition to the Fire Department next door. In 1979, two of the tenements on Lawrence Lane were sold.

At present, the library is open thirty-nine hours each week. Grants have been obtained to completely update the card catalog system.

An active story hour has grown in the past few years, offering a story hour for pre-school as well as school-age children. A Cultural Studies Program, made possible by a state grant, works in cooperation with our school system to better acquaint our children with their own cultural heritage and that of our country, with special focus on the American Indian.

The Community Education Resources Project has renovated the library basement to offer courses of study to residents of the area by residents of the area.

Librarians throughout the years

include the following: Miss Kate I. Stewart, March 1902 to November 1926; Mrs. G. A. Jacobs, November 1926 to March 1927; Miss Nila Hall Miller, March 1927 to March 1928; Mrs. Eugenia D. Irish, March 1928 to May 1933\*; Mrs. Lois Landon, May 1933\* to September 1939; Mrs. Eugenia D. Irish, September 1939 to September 1949; Mrs. Sylvia H. Kirby, September 1949 to January 1971; Mrs. Fay-Bond Hinrichs, January 1971 to April 1978; Ms. Barbara Brasure, April 1978 to present, and Mrs. Marion Palmer, Assistant Librarian, March 1979 to present. Former substitute librarians include Mrs. G. A. Jacobs, Mrs. Elisha Follansbee, and Mrs. Ruth Clark.

\*The date of May 1933 cannot be verified by existing records, but from other research appears to be correct.

Information compiled from the *History of Bristol, Vermont*, Second Edition, Minutes Books of the Lawrence Memorial Library Trustees' Meetings, and Barbara Brasure.



## IX Bristol Fire Department

The N. H. Munsill Hose Company was started in 1893, by the efforts of Newcomb H. Munsill. His Rock Spring Water Company gave the first equipment which consisted of a hose cart and seven-hundred feet of hose. Mr. Munsill was the chief stockholder in this company, thus the name, N. H. Munsill Hose Company. The bylaws drawn up by Mr. Munsill still govern the activities of the department today. The fire station was built in 1898. Until 1934, the hose company served only the Village of Bristol.

New equipment was purchased in 1937. This gave adequate protection until 1953, when a new fire truck was purchased. This included a seven-hundred gallon tank and pumper, a portable pump with suction lines, two Scott air-pacs and other small equipment.

In 1953, the company joined the Addison County Unit, which includes eight other towns.

Recently acquired equipment includes a new van purchased in 1970 and a five-year-old van purchased in 1979. A pumper capable of pumping one-thousand gallons per minute was purchased new in 1972. A used 1970 tanker was bought in 1975. The fire department still has the original 1893 hose cart and uses it in local parades.

In 1924, after a severe fire that almost went undetected, it became apparent that the fire alarm, a bell hung in the fire house, was not sufficient. Because of strong winds on that night in 1924, the bell was not heard in time. Therefore, an electrically controlled siren was installed, one that can be heard more than five miles away. The horn is blown at noon every day to check that it is still working.

The siren is directly connected to the three pull boxes in operation at Drake, Smith & Company, at the Claire Lathrop Band Mill, and on Main Street. After the dial telephone system went into use, ten fire phones were installed in private homes from which alarms can be sounded. In 1979,



*Bristol Fire Department — North Street*



*Bristol Fire Department — 1979*

Front row: Paul Jackman; Harland Wendel; Frederick Jackman, 2nd Asst.; Dr. David Pak, former Minister of The Federated Church; Harris Brassard, Chief; Richard Lathrop, 1st Asst.; Charles Tyler, Secretary-Treasurer

Second row: Edson Rathbun; George Shepard; Loren Lathrop; Lawrence Lathrop, Sr.; Robert Kimball

Third row: Gerald Lafoy; Roy LaRose, Capt.; Edward Shepard; Peter Coffey; Alan Lathrop; George Smith

Fourth row: Edward Tucker, Jr.; Eric Bouvier; John Smith; Peter Wisell; Tim Heffernan; Alan Clark



the department purchased a paging system. Every member carries a pager which sounds a tone and a voice message can be given from the base radio located at the fire station.

In 1972, the name was changed from the N. H. Munsill Hose Company to the Bristol Fire Department. Previously, Bristol had joined the county mutual aid system, and other departments were referring to "the Bristol Fire Department." There was also some confusion over the initials "N.H."; some people thought it meant "New Hampshire."

The Bristol Fire Department is owned by the Village of Bristol. The Town of Bristol pays the Village a yearly sum for fire protection.

In 1972, a portion of the house on the north side of the fire station was torn down, which made room for the new four base station constructed in 1973.

The 1979-1980 officers of the fire department are: Chief, Harris Brassard; First Assistant, Richard Lathrop; Second Assistant, Frederick Jackman; Captains, Roy LaRose and Francis Heffernan; Secretary-Treasurer, Charles Tyler; Training Officer, Mark Bouvier; and Chaplain, Reverend Basil Nichols. There are currently thirty-two members in the department. It is mandatory that a new member take a forty-five hour training course. All members are volunteers, and we owe much to their faithful, efficient service for the past eighty-seven years.

Information for this article was compiled by Mark Bouvier.

## Major Fires

One of Bristol's earliest disastrous fires occurred in 1898 when over half of the business section on the north side of Main Street was destroyed by fire. Again, in 1914, nearly all of the Drake-Farr Block on the south side of Main Street was left in ruins. In 1924, Bristol suffered one of the worst fires in its history; Kilbourn's grist mill and Stewart's barn were completely destroyed. Other buildings on the south side of Main Street were so badly damaged that they had to be practically



*Main Street — looking east — before 1898 fire*



*Main Street — after 1898 fire*



*South side of Main Street — after 1924 fire*





*1947 fire that destroyed the Bristol Manufacturing Company — South Street  
(compliments of Frank James)*



*March 29, 1974 fire — north side of Main Street  
(compliments of Frank James)*

rebuilt. These included Quinlan and Wright's grocery, the Rexall Drug Store, the bank, E. W. Varney's funeral parlor, and Palmer and Day's store. The records of the G.A.R., the Women's Relief Corps, and Business Men's Association were destroyed.

The O'Neill Block, a very old landmark, was destroyed by fire in 1929. It was first used as a hotel with Daniel Willard as the last landlord. Patrick O'Neill remodeled it into a business block about 1850. At the time it burned, Dewey Kemp's restaurant and Dan Thomas' store were located there. The site is that of McKinnon's filling station.

In 1947, the Bristol Manufacturing Company was destroyed by fire. A few years later, the remaining buildings on the site were leveled by a fire.

In 1953, fire ruined two warehouses of Chester Way's and did heavy damage to Shadrick's Garage and Kilbourn's storehouse.

In 1969, a fire destroyed Kimball's Gulf Station. It was located on West Street, next to the Post Office. Park Filling Station had a major fire in their office and newsstand, in November 1970. Ezra Dike's barn, in back of the Palmer Block on the north side of Main Street, was leveled in 1971. Half a business block on the north side of Main Street, including the Addison County Buyer's Club and the Kountry Kupboard Restaurant, were severely damaged by a fire in March 1974. The A. Johnson Company has had two major fires; a sawdust shed was leveled in November 1975, and a sawmill was destroyed in a fire in July 1976.



## X Utilities

The demand for expanded utilities in Bristol has increased greatly since the late 1950's. There has been increased street development which in turn has brought more housing needs for water, electricity, telephone, and cable TV services. In the mid-1940's, building expansion began on the upper end of North Street. During the 1950's, Crescent Street and Mountain Terrace were opened up for housing. During the forties and fifties, the Kilbourn Trailer Park off Liberty Street and the trailer park area on the corner of Maple and Pine Streets were developed. During the 1960's, Mountain Street Extension and Adirondack View were opened. The 1970's brought increased housing along the Lower and Upper Notch Roads, and building is still continuing in the Notch. Also in the seventies, Devino Lane, Meadow Drive, and Meadow Lane areas were developed. Most recently, an elderly housing unit has been built on Mountain Street Extension and a small group of homes is being built on Lovers Lane. Thus, the need for increasing utility services in Bristol is evident. The population of the Town of Bristol is a little over three thousand currently and appears to be ever growing.

### Cable Television

In 1969, a little over three acres of land in Bristol were bought by the Continental Transmission Corporation from the John Kilbourn Estate, James and Dorothea Burpee, and Lester and Sylvia Coffin to erect a cable television tower. Several areas around Bristol were checked with ground antennas, but this particular spot was both high enough and accessible. By the fall, the three-hundred-foot tower was in place. It is the tallest cable tower in New England. In 1972, Warner Cable of Bristol bought the cable television equipment.

In 1978, the complete system including the electronics and cable were rebuilt and upgraded. There are

presently five-hundred-sixty-seven subscribers within the town and village of Bristol. The cable carries nine television channels and a broad band FM signal. Terry Gould is the present Manager/Technician for the Bristol cable system.

An offshoot of this cable service is the Bristol Broadcasting Club (BBC) at Mount Abraham Union High School. Started in the fall of 1979, the students are videotaping items of community and school interest which are then broadcast to cable viewers on Channel 2.

Material compiled by Terry Gould.

### Electricity

The 1890's proved a successful decade for Bristol. The first train ran from Bristol to New Haven Junction in January 1892. On the evening of December 23, that same year, the switch was thrown providing the stores and hotels of Bristol with their first electric lights. Four days later, a 1,200 candle power arc light was installed between the Bristol House and Holley Hall.

The first hydroelectric plant was located about thirty feet north of the second Rockydale bridge and had a fall of only twenty-five feet. The station was equipped with the latest model apparatus by the General Electric Company of Boston and was considered one of the best plants in the state at the time. The dam was built by E. B. Palmer and the penstock constructed by E. M. Smith who also installed the wheels. The plant was owned by Mr. Barrett of Rutland and T. S. Drake of Bristol and operated for nearly five years by George Randall. The life of the plant was short for it burned in 1897.

The second plant was built adjacent to the highway near the upper bridge on Route 116 heading east out of the Village and was built by W. N. Hughes and he operated it from May 1897, to 1912. Mr. Hughes also built a third plant near the lower bridge and

supervised the building of the tube. The lower bridge plant, known as the Rockydale plant, had a fall of one-hundred feet. In 1905, the Hortonia Power Company of Lake Dunmore bought the plant from Barrett and Drake and later Edward Blackwell became manager. The Bristol line became connected with the Hortonia lines and remained thus until the plant was sold to the Central Vermont Public Service Corporation, with headquarters in Rutland, in 1926.

The plant had several improvements made and was eventually run semi-automatically. During the hurricane of September 1938, the dam was almost entirely washed away. In order to repair the damage, land was purchased by the Central Vermont Public Service Corporation and the water gate was changed to the highway side of the river.

The 1950's brought remarkable progress in the use of electricity in this area, according to Central Vermont Public Service Corporation which has supplied power to this section since 1929. Besides its distribution lines, the utility owned a company merchandise store on Main Street, a hydro-generation station, and two substations here.

In 1949, the Bristol Village substation's capacity was stepped up from 400 KVA (Kilowatt Volt Amperes) to 1,000 KVA and the ground surface was tarred at the location on Main Street. The substation's increased capacity was made because of the addition in power load and to insure continuity of service to the area's customers. Another plant improvement was the voltage step-up to 4,200 volts from 2,300 volts on Bristol Village's distribution lines. This took place during the late 1950's.

Thirteen new street lights in the business section of Bristol Village were installed in 1954. These lights were modern mercury vapor types especially designed for safe and attractive street lighting and are in use currently.

Obviously, domestic and farm



customers have increased their kilowatt-hour use of electricity greatly in the last two decades. The number of customers using power from Central Vermont Public Service lines has also increased significantly.

In 1967, in preparation for the construction of Mount Abraham Union High School, great improvements were made in the electrical service in Bristol. Before this time, Bristol was dependent on a substation in Weybridge. If that substation went out, Bristol went without electricity because the generator at Rockydale could not alone handle the electrical demand. In 1967, a new substation was built on Hewitt Road and a new 44,000 volt line was run between this substation and a new 115,000 volt substation east of New Haven Junction. The old line had two branches, one to supply power to New Haven and one to supply power to Bristol. Also previous to the union high school opening, the electrical power lines from River Street to West Street to the high school were rebuilt. Improvement of equipment continued as new poles and new wire were installed throughout the side streets. At present, approximately one-quarter of the Bristol Village electrical power supply comes from the Main Street substation and three-quarters of it comes from the Hewitt Road substation.

Updated information compiled by William James.

## Telephones

About 1895, the public telephone system was installed in Bristol. One switchboard was at the home of Daniel Monroe at 25 Church Street. This was known as the Addison County Telephone Company with Allen Calhoun of Middlebury as its president. Daniel Monroe's daughter, Mrs. Vernon (Josephine) Pecor was the operator. This system handled only county calls. The rental charge was one dollar per month for subscribers and they had free service for nearby calls.

The Bristol Telephone Exchange was first known as the Hanks and Gillette line, from the names of its builders. Then it became known as the Western Telephone and Telegraph Company. The Western Telephone and

Telegraph Company was owned independently, but it connected with the New England Telephone and Telegraph Company.

The October 17, 1895, issue of the Bristol Herald had a write-up on the Bristol Telephone Exchange. It read as follows: "We wish to call your attention to an enterprise that is having a healthy growth in Bristol and vicinity, namely the Bristol Telephone Exchange. The central is at Dr. Bisbee's Drug Store. The Doctor and his efficient clerk, Mr. Kingman, are very painstaking and render the best of service." There were twenty-six subscribers listed. In November 1905, the Addison County Telephone Company switchboard at the Monroe's was moved to the Village Drug Store owned by Dr. D. A. Bisbee, located on the north side of Main Street.

The telephone exchange at Dr. Bisbee's was later moved to the second floor of the South Side Drug Store. For many years the telephone office stayed at the South Side Drug Store location. From 1924 to 1951, the office was located on the second floor of the Lathrop Block, which would be the second floor of the King's Barn Annex today.

Western Telephone and Telegraph Company was at one time managed by F. H. Chessmore of Richmond. In 1950, M. J. Mack of Richmond became manager. On August 13, 1952, the dial system was installed. A building to house the dial equipment was built on Mill Hill behind 13 South Street. After this, the Bristol telephone office and operators were no longer needed. On January 1, 1959, the Western Telephone and Telegraph Company had eight-hundred-fifty-eight subscribers.

The early sixties saw normal growth additions made to the telephone equipment to service Bristol. In April 1967, Continental Telephone of Vermont bought the Western Telephone and Telegraph Company. A larger telephone equipment building replaced the first Mill Hill building at the same location. This was in preparation for the change from ten-party service outside of the Village to four-party service. This improvement was completed by 1972.

In 1970, direct distance dialing, with operators cutting in to identify the calling number, was put into effect. By 1977, direct distance dialing with automatic caller identification for private lines was completed. In 1979, the Middlebury operators were no longer used. All former Vermont operator-assisted calls are now handled through out-of-state operators and computerized equipment. Another improvement is that currently Continental Telephone of Vermont is installing its own generators in the Mill Hill building. There is a small storage building owned by the company on Munsill Avenue, in addition to the Mill Hill building.

The telephone service representatives in Bristol are Gerald Guthrie and Robert O'Bryan. John Brassard handles maintenance of all equipment at the Mill Hill central office. As of February 1, 1980, there were two-thousand-one-hundred-ninety-five subscribers in the "453" Bristol exchange.

Information compiled by Dickerman Orvis, Chief Switchman, Continental Telephone of Vermont.

## Water

The history of a water supply in Bristol Village begins in 1811 when, in the fall, a company was incorporated to supply the residents of the Village with water. In the principal aqueduct, the water was brought first in hollow logs, then in lead pipes, which proved so unsatisfactory that the logs were used again. In 1841, pipes were made from water, cement, lime, and river sand. These pipes proved successful and were probably used until the Munsill system was established. In the smaller aqueducts, wood logs were used exclusively.

On November 25, 1883, the following residents of Garfield Street met and formed the Garfield Aqueduct Company: C. E. Smith, J. J. Dumas, M. P. Varney, S. D. Farr, E. G. Prime, Clark Huntington, and Frank Greenough. At this meeting, it was voted to assess each shareholder twenty dollars to meet the expense of buying the pipe. A meeting was held April 26, 1884, at which the constitution and

bylaws of the company were adopted and officers elected. The supply of water was confined to the residents of Garfield Street and to S. D. Farr of North Street and to T. S. Drake on East Street who owned the spring from which the water was taken. Mr. Drake leased this spring to the company on January 3, 1885. The company was of short duration, the last recorded meeting being held April 10, 1889.

During the decade 1880-90, the Rock Spring Water Company was established. This system, better known as the Munsill system because N. H. Munsill was the leading stockholder, took its first supply of water from a spring on Hogback Mountain. Later the Rock Spring company laid a line from a spring back of Bristol Pond to the Village and still later supplemented this by obtaining water from the spring in the Basin. At first this water was piped into tubs near the street, one tub serving two families.

In 1903, Bristol Village was incorporated and the Rock Spring system could not supply the needs of the whole Village. At one time, a huge ram was brought to Bristol via the railroad with the thought that it would be able to push water from the New Haven River up the hill into the Village. The ram operated but it would not push one drop of water up into the Village water mains. After two months of trying to

make the ram work as it should, it was shipped back by rail to the manufacturer.

By 1905, plans were underway to bring water from springs at the base of Mount Abraham in Lincoln to a reservoir on Hogback Mountain and the present gravity system was thus established. In the spring of 1906, it is said Bristol "was sure a sick-looking Village" as every man that could be hired was put to work with pick and shovel to dig ditches for water pipes through the streets and into house cellars. Meanwhile, the reservoir was being built on Hogback.

Some time after this, the Munsill system ceased to operate. The spring in the Basin came into use again in the winter of 1933-34 when parts of the water mains in the Village froze. A pump was installed there to pump water into the mains which were not frozen and to prevent a water famine. At a Village meeting in 1934, it was voted to buy the pump and equipment and install it permanently to be ready for emergencies.

In 1973, another water pump was installed along the New Haven River at the base of South Street. Originally this pump and the Basin Street pump were to be backup systems to the gravity system. Currently all three systems are used daily to feed water into the Village reservoir.

In 1964, there was much talk about chlorinating the water in Bristol. Finally the vote for chlorination was approved. In July 1964, a building to house a chlorinator was constructed on Briggs Hill where part of the water supply pipes are laid. Currently chlorination is mechanized at three locations, the Briggs Hill station, the Basin Street pump, and the South Street pump.

Water samples are sent to the Vermont State Health Department generally three times a month for testing. Daily it is tested at varying locations for turbidity.

The reservoir has a six-hundred-fifty-thousand gallon capacity. It is encircled by an eight-foot high fence and the brush around it is kept down. It is cleaned by hand at least twice a year and any cracks are sealed. There is a diversion pipe at the mouth of the reservoir so that the water supply can flow directly into the Village line when the reservoir is emptied for maintenance purposes. The Village Water Department serves five-hundred-fifty households. Bristol residents often say the cool, clear mountain spring water is the best water in the state.

Much of this information was compiled by Water Foreman John C. Smith.



## XI Transportation

### Bristol Airport

At a special Town Meeting held in Bristol, January 25, 1934, the voters appropriated a sum of money for the construction of an airport, and authorized the Selectmen to purchase a tract of land for same. Nine landowners sold a total of 45.68 acres to the Town for \$2,673.41. The acreage was located at the western edge of the Village on a very flat, open area just off West Street.

The construction of the airport was also funded by Works Progress Administration (W.P.A.) monies from the federal government. George N. Lathrop invited the Vermont W.P.A. supervisor to come to Bristol to authorize the appropriation of funds for the airport. Lathrop became Chairman of the first Airport Commission appointed by the Selectmen to supervise the operation of the field. Other members of that first commission who were responsible for getting the project underway were Lyle C. Churchill, Wallace M. De Coursey, Arthur F. Gove, Leland H. Landon, Ridley J. Norton, George G. Smith, and Foster G. Whitcomb. The airport opened in 1936.

The airport was to have four runways, but only one north and south runway of two-thousand-two-hundred feet was ever completed. Eventually there were five buildings connected with the airport including various hangars and the Administration Building built in 1941.

Pilot Joseph W. Rock came to Bristol Airport in July 1936 to manage the field and operate a private flying course there. Initially he offered training to college students. In 1939, the Private Flying Division of the U. S. Civil Aeronautics Authority (C.A.A.) granted a quota of twenty Middlebury College students to train for private flying. This program continued for a few more years. The last C.A.A. program included ten college students and a select group of ten high school seniors. Included in the latter group



*Bristol Airport — Airport Drive — aerial view (compliments of Cora Rock)*

were James Bouvier, Lawrence Bouvier, John Cragen, Thomas Cushman, Frederick LaParl Eddy, John C. Smith, and Robert Willey from Bristol.

In 1941, Bristol Airport started training enlisted Navy men in conjunction with Middlebury College. Eventually hundreds of pilots were trained in Bristol for participation in World War II. The number of planes grew to five to accommodate the increase in students. The airport was maintained by rent received from flying activities on the field.

Joseph Rock died in a plane crash October 22, 1960, at the age of sixty-one, while working for a private company. He had been an aviator for more than thirty-five years. Before coming to Bristol, he had flown with the Navy during World War I, done acrobatic flying, and had been associated with other Vermont airports.

After the death of Mr. Rock, activity at the Bristol Airport gradually declined.

The former Administration Building was used for a teen center for a short time and the other buildings were used for town storage. In 1966, the air-

port was sold to the Union High School District #28 School Board. It is now the location of Mount Abraham Union High School. The former Administration Building is now the District Superintendent's office.

For information on the Bristol Airport, we are much indebted to a manuscript called "A History of the Short Life of Bristol Airport, 1936-1960" written by Cora S. Rock.

### Bristol Railroad

The Bristol Railroad was initially a dream of two local men, Myron F. Wilson and J. J. Ridley. Mr. Wilson, who started the Bristol Herald, saw a railroad as the local means for transporting to market the products manufactured in Bristol, such as coffins, wooden boxes, and butter tubs. Mr. Ridley envisioned increased business for his Bristol House. The two men joined forces. Mr. Wilson wielded the mighty pen and Mr. Ridley started his campaign to convince the townfolk, the Selectmen, and the state legislature. Several meetings were held in the early 1880's to discuss the subject, after which J. J. Ridley introduced a bill in



the legislature incorporating the Bristol Railroad Company. In 1890, a survey was made of the route and on November 11, 1890, a special Town Meeting was held and six men were authorized to issue \$15,000 worth of bonds to aid in the construction of the roadbed. Work was begun on the roadbed in 1890, but much trouble was experienced with those in charge of the work and for a few months all activity ceased.

For months it looked as if the project was doomed, but it was taken up again by Percival W. Clement of Rutland. He became president of the Bristol Railroad Company and pursued the roadbed construction. The project was completed in January 1892. The first train ran from Bristol to New Haven Junction to connect with the Rutland Railroad on January 5, 1892. The line was just over six miles long. Richard S. Smith, superintendent and conductor, was in charge of the first run. Two stops were made between Bristol and New Haven Junction, at Tucker's Crossing and New Haven Street, where simple shelters were erected. A third shelter was later erected at Hubbard's Crossing where stops were made.

One amusing incident is gleaned from the Bristol Herald's account of the first trip, which records the fact that it took only twenty-five minutes to make the trip to the Junction, but it required thirty minutes to return because the upgrade at Tucker's Crossing was too much for the original engine which was rented from another railroad.

The first engine was replaced in February 1892 by a new and more powerful one from the Rhode Island Locomotive Works. The new engine, gilt trimmed, bore the inscription "Bristol Railroad, No. 1" in bold letters and was a unique two-way one with a cow catcher at each end. The engine was just run in reverse for the return trip. Initially there were two daily round trips on the regular schedule which ran six days a week. Early time tables allowed twenty-five minutes for the run. Fare was twenty-five cents to New Haven or thirty-five cents to the Junction. Round-trip fare was sixty cents. In April 1892, a com-

bination coach was added permanently to the line.

In August 1892, a depot was built at Bristol and like everything connected with the railroad, no expense was spared in its construction, for the railroad was built for permanency. The former depot is currently a private residence at 83 North Street.

Among the variety of items carried by the railroad were potatoes from Lincoln and Starksboro, milk, maple syrup and sugar, Christmas trees, coal, and carloads of horses. Special excursions were arranged for passengers to attend events outside of town such as concerts, plays, and baseball games.

Other attractions came into Bristol because of the railroad, including the circus, minstrel shows, and the Chautauqua Courses.

For several years, the Bristol Railroad was very successful; but its passenger service declined as the use of automobiles increased. In its last years, the railroad depended almost entirely on its freight service. When manufacturing in Bristol began to decline, the railroad became a liability and was discontinued in 1930 after running for thirty-eight years.

Bristol resident Peveril Peake, who was three years old at the time, rode out on the last run to New Haven

*Old Railroad Station — North Street —  
present residence of Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell Lathrop*



*Old Railroad Station — North Street*





Junction on April 12, 1930. He tells the following story about that run in an interview with him in February 1979: "I was going to ride back on it . . . but the safety valve let go . . . and I didn't want any fire-breathing, smoke-belching monster like that to ride on!" One can imagine the awesome sight as viewed by a three year old.

The end of the Bristol Railroad affected the transportation of two vital necessities, coal and milk. The railroad was the medium through which P. W. Clement had furnished coal to Bristol. After the railroad was discontinued, the coal business was purchased by Clarence E. Lathrop and Glenn E. Jackman and is currently known as Jackman's Inc., owned by Glenn E. Jackman's son, Frederick Jackman. The Whiting Milk Company continued to operate for a short time after the railroad stopped running by sending the milk to Rutland by truck. Soon, however, the Bristol plant closed.

The memory of the Bristol Railroad brings with it the memory of Levi Bates, one of Bristol's most loyal citizens. He was connected with the railroad for twenty-eight of its thirty-eight years of service, working as conductor, station agent, and superintendent over the years. His wife assisted him in his station agent work.

The names of three other men who labored faithfully for the Bristol Railroad come to mind. Ralph Denio loyally served the railroad for twenty-

one years as superintendent. Fred LaParl was engineer for thirty years. Frank Mott worked in several capacities, but in the later years he was the conductor. He served the railroad for twenty-two years.

For information on the Bristol Railroad, we are much indebted to a manuscript called "Thirty-eight Years with the Same Locomotive" written by William Gove.

### **Vergennes-Bristol Plank Road**

In 1850, a group of Vergennes and Bristol citizens formed a company for the purpose of building a plank road from Bristol to Vergennes. This company, known as the Vergennes and Bristol Plank Road Company, was composed of Datus Gaige, Luman Munson, Solon Burroughs, Samuel Holley, Harvey Munsill, Elias Bottum, William White, Samuel Strong, William Parker, Samuel Morgan, William Pope, William Worth II, John Roberts, Benjamin Ferris, Mosely Hall, Carlton Stevens, Henry Spaulding, and Hiram Adams. The franchise was granted them November 9, 1850, and they began the construction of the road at once. The planks and sleepers in the road were made from virgin pine. The road started west from North Street, seven-tenths of a mile north of the present Bristol traffic light and continued past the Catholic cemetery and the Wright Ferguson cor-

ner north of New Haven Street. From there it followed an almost straight line to Vergennes, meeting Route 7 just east of the city. The road, still known today as the Plank Road, is approximately seven miles long.

Nine years later, the company was released from all obligation to keep the road planked and was allowed to repair the road with earth and gravel in the usual manner of repairing turnpikes. It is evident that the planks had all worn out in that space of nine years, and the toll did not pay for the upkeep of the dirt road. In 1861, the company was allowed to surrender the charter and the turnpike. The former toll road upkeep was left to the respective towns through which it ran, Bristol, New Haven, and Waltham. Mr. Frederick Wood in *Turnpikes of New England* says that the very few plank roads in New England were all located in Connecticut and Vermont, with the exception of one in Massachusetts.

In 1855, the Vermont Legislature granted a charter to a company planning to construct a toll road from Bristol to Huntington. In 1860, a company was incorporated to establish a turnpike from Bristol to Fayston. No further record of these two roads is available, so it seems evident that for some reason the projects were abandoned. However, in 1957, a road known as the McCullough Highway was completed, connecting Bristol and Irasville.

## XII Churches

Unlike most of the towns in the county which considered the support of the Gospel and the building of a meeting house town business, Bristol kept church and town matters separate. The first religious society in town was the Baptist Church organized in 1794, followed by the Congregational Church in 1805, the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1813, the Advent Christian Society in 1840, St. Ambrose Catholic Church in 1877, and the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the late 1800's. The Advent Christian Society ceased meeting in Bristol about 1947 as related in the two earlier editions of this history. The Baptist, Catholic, and Seventh-day Adventist churches remain today as well as the Congregational and Methodist Episcopal churches which joined in 1917 to form The Federated Church. Some of the material which follows will contradict information printed in the first and second editions of this history. Changed information is taken from Harvey C. Munsill's historical writings on the Bristol churches as published in *The Early History of Bristol, Vermont*.

### Bristol Seventh-day Adventist Church

1863 saw the universal organization of the Seventh-day Adventist Church as a group who looked for the advent of Christ and observed Saturday, the seventh day of the week, as the Sabbath. As early as 1876, references in Mary Drake Barlow's diary mention prayer meetings and Sabbath services she attended. Though she did not mention any organized church body, it is believed these groups were Seventh-day Adventists living and meeting in this area.

In 1888, Elder Thomas H. Purdon transferred his membership from the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Bristol to the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Rutland. This seems to be the earliest date with reference to an organized church in Bristol.

Records show there was an organized church in Vergennes by 1914, possibly encompassing the Bristol members. There having been a fire in the home of Brother L. A. Armstrong, the church records were lost. However, the group was reorganized December 24, 1922, as the Vergennes Seventh-day Adventist Church with a membership of twenty-four. Meetings were held in private homes sometimes in Vergennes and sometimes in Bristol until March 29, 1969. Through the kindness of the Bristol School Board, it became possible to use Howden Hall for church and Sabbath School services. Howden Hall had belonged at one time to the Advent Christian Church, a church unrelated to the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Being unable to purchase the Howden Hall building, the Seventh-day Adventists decided to purchase the present site for their church at Rockydale, just outside the Village, on July 11, 1973. There on June 4, 1975, with Roy Clark representing the Town, ground was broken and a Thanksgiving service and lunch were held.

The Building Committee was composed of Bernard S. Valentine, Chairman; Gus A. Kusch and Clarence Abernethy from Bristol; and Mrs. Edgar Willard and Mrs. Henry Van Ornum of Vergennes. The church was actually designed by suggestions and innovations from the congregation. Clifford Young of Rutland was the contractor builder with much of the interior work being done by the members.

In business session of the church March 13, 1976, it was decided to change the name from the Vergennes Seventh-day Adventist Church to the Bristol Seventh-day Adventist Church. On Sabbath April 3, 1976, the first services were held with thirty-nine guests and members in attendance.

Besides the Sabbath School and Worship services, the church frequently presents the "Five-Day Plan to Quit Smoking," which is available to all. Other services to the community in-

clude a Vacation Bible School for a week in August, and the church has hosted several Vegetarian Suppers for the ladies of the other Bristol churches. At this writing, the local Elder is Gus A. Kusch.

Information compiled by Helen Kusch.

### The Federated Church

Originally the Federated Church building was built in 1840 as the Methodist Church. It became The Federated Church in 1917 after the Methodists and Congregationalists joined together. Following is a condensed history of both groups prior to their federation and up through the present.

The Methodist Episcopal Church, as it was referred to by Harvey Munsill, was organized in Bristol in 1813 when a class was formed at the home of Ebenezer Saxton. Later meetings were held in the barn of Captain Noble Munson. The first sermon was preached by Reverend Stephen Scovenberger. Their first regular meeting place was a chapel built in 1815 on the south side of West Street at the site of the present Park Filling Station. In 1839, when it was determined to build a new church, the chapel was sold to Datus R. Gaige. It was taken apart and all suitable material was used in constructing the W. H. Browe house, which was eventually torn down to make room for the new post office.

For a year, the Methodist Episcopal meetings were held in the school house which stood near where the Catholic Rectory is now. By 1840, the Methodist Church building, later to be called The Federated Church, was completed on North Street. In 1878, Church Street was opened. Land was purchased from the church for part of the roadway. Thereafter, the location of the church was described as the corner of North and Church Streets. A list of early Methodist ministers known to preach in Bristol are listed in *The Early History of Bristol, Vermont* by Harvey Munsill.





*Saint Ambrose Catholic Community — West Street*



*First Baptist Church —  
Park Place*



*Bristol Seventh-day Adventist Church — Rockydale (just outside the Village  
to the east on Routes 17 and 116)*

*The Federated Church —  
corner of North and Church Streets*



Also in 1840, the Methodist Church parsonage was built. It was a one-and-a-half story cottage intended to be used as a private residence but was sold to the church for the minister's use. The parsonage was renovated and modernized in 1915.

The Congregationalist Society had been formed in July 1805 by Reverend Jedidiah Bushnell of Cornwall. They had no definite place of worship until 1819 when they joined with the Universalists and Baptists to build a Meeting House on the north side of the Village Park, later to be the First Baptist Church building. In 1837, the Congregationalists sold their share in the Meeting House. For four years, they met at the school house and then in 1841 built the Congregationalist Meeting House which faced the Village Park from the south, commonly known as Howden Hall and currently used for the Bristol Kindergarten. At one time, this church was leased to the Advent Christian Society.

By 1890, the Congregationalist Society in Bristol had nearly become extinct but under the leadership of Reverend C. N. Thomas, it became active again. The cornerstone for a new church was laid in 1898. The building on the corner of North and Elm Streets was completed in 1900.

Over the years, the Congregational Society waned and ebbed. Early ministers are listed in *The Early History of Bristol, Vermont* by Harvey Munsill. Other ministers of the church included: Reverend Calvin Butler (ordained in 1842); Reverend C. N. Thomas (circa 1899); Reverend William Millar; Reverend William Scott; Reverend E. J. Ranslowe; Reverend Julian Klock; and Reverend W. G. MacFarlane, the last Congregationalist minister in Bristol.

In 1917, the Congregational Society federated with the Methodists and the former Methodist church building became The Federated Church. The Congregational Church building on the corner of North and Elm Streets was used only for June, July, and August services. By 1948, the church building had begun to fall into disrepair and it was sold in August of that year to Libanus Lodge No. 47. It

is still used as the Masonic Temple today. Because of its exceptional stained-glass windows and natural wood interior, the building was included on the 1978 Bristol Historical Buildings Tour.

Since the joining of the Methodists and the Congregationalists on May 24, 1917, to form The Federated Church, the membership was split two-thirds and one-third. A Methodist pastor has always been assigned because the Methodists outnumber the Congregationalists.

In 1965, the church building celebrated its 125th anniversary. The original church built in 1840 and seen in early pictures differs greatly from the present church. This is because from 1904 to 1906, the church underwent major renovations. The original portion of the building was moved slightly to the north, an additional room was constructed on the southerly side, the pitch of the roof was changed, stained-glass windows installed, and a new belfry added.

In 1915, a basement was dug under the church for more room; in 1926 repairs were done following fire damage; in 1939 remodeling was done and an organ installed. In 1959, a new electric organ was added and Ford Thomas donated the fully automatic chimes system.

Many memorial funds were given during the 1950's to beautify the church edifice and buy equipment for the church building and parsonage. Among the people so remembered are: Dr. R. J. Bristol, Elmer Boynton, Miss Olla Boynton, Anna and Edward Geary, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Guindon, Mrs. Grace Hanks, Mrs. Elizabeth Shiverette, and Mrs. Irene Wheelock. In 1967, a substantial donation by Ford Thomas made possible the building of the education wing. The wing consists of a minister's study, a nursery, and Sunday School and meeting rooms. The garage for The Federated Church was a memorial gift in honor of Ernest Guindon.

Currently there are several active groups within The Federated Church. These include Youth and Adult Fellowships, The Ladies' Aid Society (organized in 1890 - 1891), Bible Study and Women's Study Groups,

and Children's and Adult Choirs.

The Reverend Jonathan Bursey has held the longest pastorate in the history of the church. He came to Bristol in May 1955 and retired in 1974. His ministry was marked by a feeling of love and service. Under Reverend Bursey's leadership, the Christian education wing was built in 1967. Reverend Bursey's wife, Joyce, led the Adult Choir, played the organ, and was very active throughout his pastorate.

The Reverend Henry E. Cheney assumed the minister's position in June 1974. There was continued activity organization, and congregational participation during Reverend Cheney's ministry. In 1976, he accepted another pastorate within Vermont.

In June 1976, the Reverend Doctor David Pak became the pastor of The Federated Church. Dr. Pak was born in Korea and educated in the United States. A highlight of his ministry was certainly his musical talent and Christian dedication. His wife, Sue, played a very active role in the life of the church and led the Children's Choir. In June 1979, they left Bristol to return to Dr. Pak's homeland. He accepted a professorship at the seminary in Taejon, Korea. Dr. and Mrs. Pak are actively continuing their missionary work in Korea.

In July 1979, Reverend Thomas Gibbs and his wife, Judy, arrived at The Federated Church and he is serving currently. Reverend Gibbs graduated from the University of Vermont and Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C. This is his first pastorate. Reverend Gibbs is eager to share his Christian education with the congregation of The Federated Church.

### **First Baptist Church**

The first religious society in Bristol was the Baptist Church. The first Baptist meeting was held at the house of Elijah Thomas which stood nearly where Pilgrim Farm is, owned by John A. Hise, Jr. Baptism was administered by Elder Joseph Call in Baldwin's Creek about three miles east of Bristol Village. This was in August



1794. The first settled minister in town was Reverend Amos Stearns who was ordained at the home of Robert Holley in Bristol in 1818. For the first few years, services were held in homes, barns, and schoolhouses.

In 1819, the Baptists, Congregationalists, and Universalists joined forces and built a common Meeting House which was to be shared according to their contributions of labor and money. The church building was also known as the White House and was built by Solomon Drake. In 1837, the Baptists came into full ownership of the building when the Congregationalists sold their share to the Baptists and the Universalist sect dwindled in number.

Mr. Drake designed the exterior of the building to have two pillars holding up a small portico over the front door. In 1877, the two columns were removed and replaced by brackets.

In 1885, extensive remodeling was done on the north end of the church to accommodate the first pipe organ which replaced the melodian of 1854. The pipe organ was rebuilt in 1938 and was used until 1953. At that time, a new electric organ was purchased by the Grace A. Hanks Memorial Fund.

In the late 1890's, changes were made to the church property. A cellar was dug and a furnace installed, a baptistry was built, and a new ceiling put in the auditorium. In 1897, the belfry was capped with a shingled cone. A new bell for the belfry, a memorial gift of Ezra B. Eddy, was hung in 1904. In 1902, the present Baptist Parsonage at 52 East Street was built.

In 1925, the church building was extensively remodeled and completely redecorated. Inside remodeling included a new entrance which made possible the center aisle, new memorial windows, new pews, hardwood floors, and modern lighting. On the outside of the building, the portico was enlarged, two new pillars graced the front, the cone was removed from the belfry, and a replica of the original spire was mounted in its place. The main architectural lines of the original 1819 Meeting House were restored.

More recent improvements include a new furnace in 1967 and

redecorating of the vestry and kitchen in 1968. In 1975, the members of First Baptist built an addition on the north end of the building for a nursery, Christian education, and other church uses. The nursery is dedicated to the memory of Mrs. Myrtle Lowrey whose bequest was the initiation of many gifts given to the building fund. In 1979, a large acrylic mural, painted by Mrs. Doty Kelleher of Massachusetts, depicting various activities of the nursery class, was installed. It was dedicated in memory of Deacon Edwin H. Hanson.

Since the Second Edition of this history in 1959, several pastors have served at the First Baptist Church. Reverend Ronald E. Carver served from 1956 to 1960. He was from Maine, was a 1956 graduate of Fuller Theological Seminary in California, and went on to a pastorate in New Hampshire after his resignation in January 1960. Dr. J.S.A. Worboys served as the interim pastor until Reverend Reginald B. Watson assumed the pastorate in August 1960. He came from Massachusetts and went on to New York State after he left Bristol in April 1963. During the summer of 1963, various supply preachers served until Reverend John R. Burbank accepted the pastoral call in October 1963. He graduated from Bristol High School and Bethel Theological Seminary in Minnesota. In 1967, the Reverend Mr. Burbank printed "A History of the First Baptist Church" which has been most useful in preparing this article. Mr. Burbank left the pastorate here in January 1970 to become the Associate Executive Minister of the Vermont Baptist State Convention.

In September 1970, Reverend Augustus W. Dowdy, Jr., assumed the pastorate and is serving currently. He holds degrees from Gordon-Conwell and Andover Newton Theological Schools. Prior to coming to Bristol he served a church in Maine.

One of the features of the work of the church has been its various schools. A School of Missions, organized in 1929, was held annually for six weeks for over forty years. Recently the School of Missions has been substituted by emphasis during the

church year. The Daily Vacation Bible School was started in 1930 and is now held for one week each summer. The Federated Church cooperates in this program.

In the church's evangelistic, teaching, serving, and mission outreach, it is supported by its various organizations. One of these is the Treasure Seekers Society which includes women of the Baptist membership and congregation. This society, organized in 1886, still carries on work for worldwide charity and mission. A family oriented group to provide Christian fellowship, the Pocock Club, was formed in April 1957. Other organized groups are a thriving Church School, a mid-week study class, a prayer chain, senior high youth group, and choirs. Mr. John Sherwin was the organist and choir director for over thirty years beginning around 1940. During these years the choir's reputation was well known throughout the area. Presently, Mrs. Marjorie Hill serves as church organist.

Other involvements include active participation in the statewide Baptist camping program, a daily message of devotion through a telephone ministry called "Inspirational Line" started in 1975, and an Art and Music Celebration held in 1976 to commemorate the Nation's Bicentennial.

The First Baptist Church was included on the Bristol Historical Buildings Tour held in September 1978, because it is a major historical landmark of Bristol Village.

The First Baptist Church had the honor of hosting the Vermont State Baptist Convention for the first time ever in Bristol in May 1979.

### **St. Ambrose Catholic Community**

The first St. Ambrose Catholic church was built in 1877 under the direction of Reverend Patrick Cunningham, pastor of the Middlebury Catholic Church. It was located just beyond the Bristol High School building and faced the Park from the west. The first Mass was celebrated there on January 1, 1878. The first resident priest, Reverend Michael Carmody, was appointed in 1893. He had

the parochial residence adjoining the church built between 1893 and 1896. The rectory has been renovated inside and out.

The parish has several organizations which are active: the Catholic Women's Club organized in 1935; the choir for adults under the direction of Sheila Lathrop; the Folk Group under the direction of Mary Sullivan; the Community of Caring group; the Lay Ministers; the Thursday night Prayer Group; and the Marriage Encounter Group of over sixty couples who have experienced this unique weekend. Recently a Youth Ministry program has been initiated for the high school youth. It is a total ministry to these young people. Several high school youth have experienced the Search for Christian Maturity weekend sponsored by the Diocesan Youth Ministry Office.

The Religious Education Program includes programs for children and adults. From 1976 to 1978, Sister Isoline Duclos of the Sisters of Mercy, acted as a consultant to the parish religious education teachers. In August 1978, she came to live in Bristol. Sister Isoline currently serves as the Religious Education Coordinator for St. Ambrose parish as well as for St. Peter's in Vergennes.

The parish has many committees which give direction and life to the people. Among them are: Buildings and Grounds; Finance; Liturgy; Pastoral Council; Religious Education; Social Concerns; Ways and Means; and Youth Ministry. At present about one-hundred people serve on these committees.

In 1968, the Reverend Raymond Provost came to St. Ambrose. Plans were immediately started to replace the old structure with a modern building. The old building, serving the Catholic population of five towns (Bristol, Lincoln, Monkton, New Haven, and Starksboro) was deteriorating and was too small for the over four-hundred families it needed to serve. The new colonial structure was blessed in August 1971, by the Most Reverend Robert Joyce, Bishop of Burlington at the time. It is of brick veneer and consists of fourteen rooms including the main church; the Parish Hall which is used for parties, dinners, receptions, and many community functions; the kitchen; storage areas; bridal room; and meeting room.

In 1979, extensive landscaping was done on the grounds of the church and rectory. A shrine was placed on the lawn area between the church and rectory. This beautification of the church

property was due to many generous gifts from the parishoners.

In November 1975, the Reverend Basil Nichols succeeded Father Provost as the fourteenth pastor of St. Ambrose Catholic Community and he is currently serving in that position. Father Nichols also serves as Chaplain of the Bristol Fire Department; chaired the Halloween Committee for 1979; and is the Diocesan Director of Rural Life.

Former pastors of St. Ambrose include the following: Rev. Patrick Cunningham (1877), Rev. Edward Maloney (Mission Priest), Rev. Henry Lane (Mission Priest), Rev. Jerome Gelot (Mission Priest), Rev. Michael Carmody (1893-1896), Rev. John Boyle (1896-1900), Rev. Thomas Schaeffer (1900-1901), Rev. Daniel Coffey (1901-1911), Rev. Patrick Doheny (1911-1913), Rev. Napoleon Archambault (1913-1925), Rev. J. A. Dame (1926-1931), Rev. Thomas Liddy (1931-1941), Rev. Michael Costello (1941-1947), Rev. Leo L'Ecuyer (1947-1956), Rev. Christopher McHugh (1956-1963), Rev. David Roche (1963-1968), Rev. Raymond Provost (1968-1975), Rev. H. Basil Nichols (1975-present).



## XIII Cemeteries

The earliest cemetery in town was located on Bristol Flats on a farm owned by Alec Hammond. Presently this land is owned by Andrew Johnson. There are three small cemeteries within Bristol: Meehan, Briggs Hill, and Varney, as well as two larger ones, Greenwood Cemetery and Mount Saint Joseph Cemetery.

The Meehan Cemetery is located off the Meehan Road in the middle of a meadow on the present David Purinton farm (formerly the Meehan Farm). There are only about thirty grave markers there now. Most of the burials appear to have been made between 1802 and 1844, although one marker shows the year 1863.

The Briggs Hill Cemetery is located on the Briggs Hill Road on the way to Lincoln. One of the first burials there was in 1805. Most of the people who lived in that area were Briggs families. The only recent burials there are relatives and friends of the Almon Norton family. There are several graves marked with plain field stones.

The Varney Cemetery is on the Hardscrabble Road. It was named for the Varney family which owned the land. One of the first burials there is dated 1809, but most of the burials date between 1840 and 1890. There have been only two burials there in the last thirty-five years.

It appears that after 1890, most of the burials were made in Greenwood Cemetery and Mount Saint Joseph Cemetery. The Greenwood Cemetery is located at the foot of Stony Hill on the northerly side of Route 17 heading west out of Bristol. Greenwood Cemetery was previously called "the Bristol Cemetery, the Village Cemetery, or Stony Hill Cemetery." There are no records of burials in this cemetery prior to January 1895. In that year, Erwin A. Hasseltine, under direction of the Selectmen, compiled a lot book for the cemetery. Although there were no early records kept, some of the tombstones there date from 1802.



*Briggs Hill Cemetery — Briggs Hill*



*Greenwood Cemetery — foot of Stony Hill*





*Mount Saint Joseph Cemetery — corner of Burpee and Plank Roads*

In November 1900, the Greenwood Cemetery was incorporated under the name Bristol Cemetery Association. The association was formed to manage the affairs of the Greenwood Cemetery. The present association officers are: President, Dr. William Cardell and Secretary-Treasurer, Carlton Bosworth. In July 1904, the front section of the cemetery was enclosed with the wrought iron fence. There are about twenty-one acres owned by the cemetery and approximately three-thousand-seven-hundred-sixty burials there.

Mount Saint Joseph Cemetery is located at the corner of Plank and Burpee Roads. The land for this Catholic cemetery was purchased in 1897 and blessed in 1898. The cemetery is owned by the Burlington Catholic Diocese. The earliest burials in this cemetery were in 1898. The cemetery contains about four acres and seven-hundred-eighty burials.

By law all cemeteries are supposed to be fenced, and the town has to care for them if there is no other source. Three or more local residents can petition the Selectmen for proper care of a cemetery if need be.

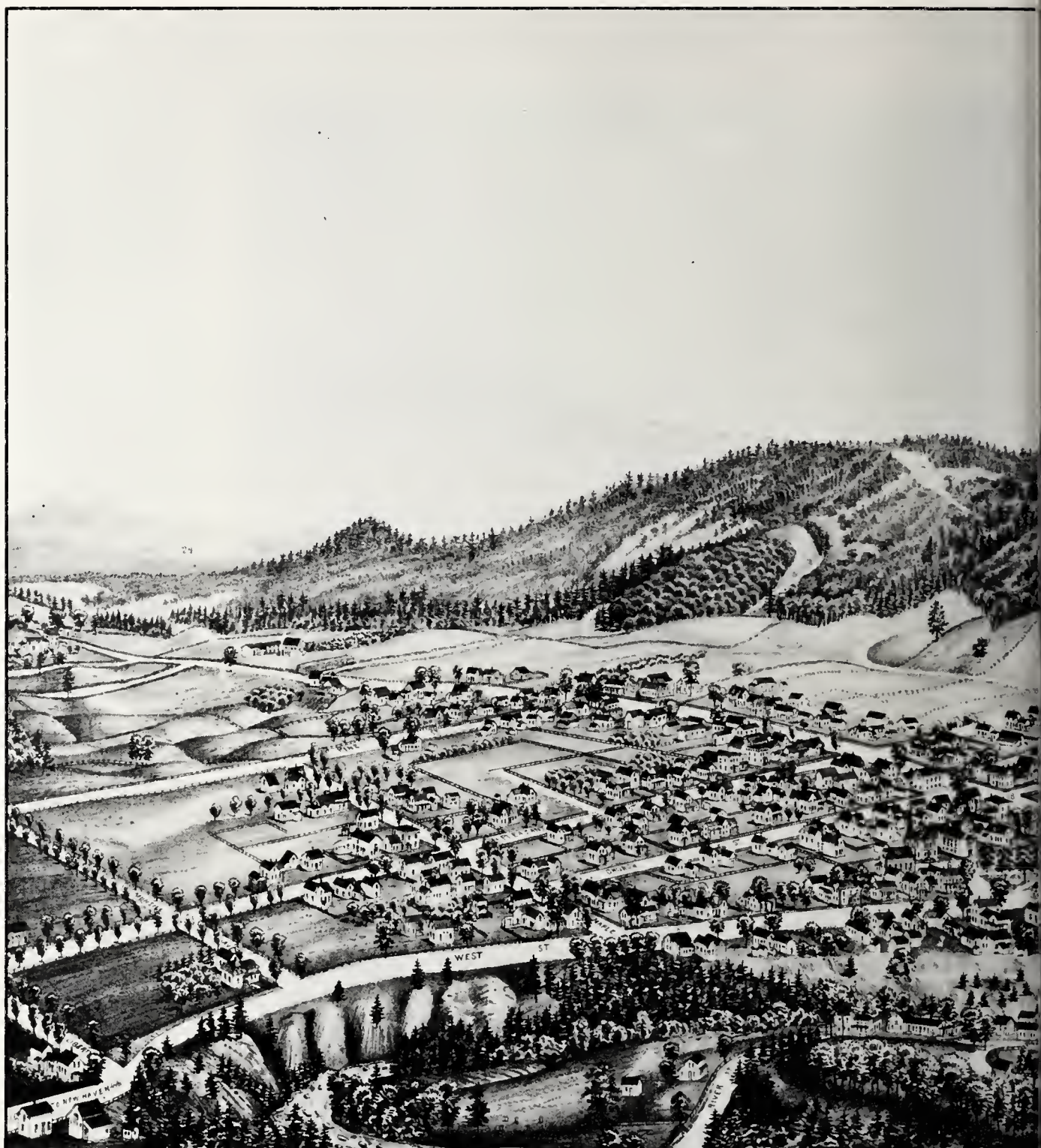
Information compiled by Gordon Brown and Carl Nelson.

*Varney Cemetery — Hardscrabble Road*





*Birdseye view of Bristol, Vermont — 1889 — Drawn and published by George E. Norris, Brockton, Massachusetts*



- 1 Baptist Church.
- 2 Methodist Church.
- 3 Advent Church.
- 4 Catholic Church.
- 5 Holley Hall.
- 6 Bristol Graded School.
- 7 Bristol House, J. J. Ridley, Prop.
- 8 Commercial House.

- 9 Post Office.
- 10 Bristol Herald, Wilson Bros.
- 11 Bristol Mfg Co., Coffins and Caskets.
- 12 A. L. Cain & Co., Stave Mfr.
- Office Farr Block.
- 13 Drake & Smith, Mfrs. Mailing Boxes and Bee keepers' Supplies.
- 14 N. F. Dunshee, Dry and Fancy Goods.

**BRI**





VT.

- 15 E. C. Drake & Co., Hardware.
- 10 Bush & Patterson, Groceries, Crockery Etc.
- 14 W. E. Dunshee, Groceries.
- 9 Bates & Hathorne, Groceries, Meats and Provisions.
- 13 Drake & Smith, Jewelers.
- 10 J. M. Day, Watches, Jewelry & Millinery.
- 16 D. A. Bisbee, Drugs and Medicines.

- 17 J. F. Thompson, Merchant Tailor.
- 18 Homer A. Bogue, Physician & Surgeon.
- 19 Q. E. Grover, Livery & Feed Stable.
- 20 Alfred J. Beaupre, Bristol Laundry.
- 21 D. Bowditch, Residence.
- 22 Mt. Abraham.
- 23 Hogback Mt.
- 24 Monkton Mt.



## XIV Education

### School History

Even before schools were officially mentioned in Bristol Town Meetings, three log schoolhouses had been built. The first one was established in 1789 on Bristol Flats; all were built by voluntary contributions of labor and materials. The first mention of the schools in a Town report was in March 1792. By the time the first official report was made of the schools, for the 1810 census, there were ten school districts: Center, North, Northeast, "Leg," United, Southeast, Hill, South, North Hill, and Village. This report showed four-hundred-eighty-one students, a student being anyone between the ages of four and eighteen who attended school at any time during the year. In 1831, a Town committee established the ten districts officially, with proper boundaries set between districts. This system of district schools continued until March 1893, when the nine districts then remaining were brought under the control of a committee and the town system was adopted. Until 1850, schools in Bristol were supported by an assessment made upon each student according to the time spent in school; after 1850 schools were supported by an assessment made on the Grand List.

In 1837, a two-story school building was erected in the Village; the upper story was for secondary education. This building served its dual purpose for only a few years before proving inadequate. In 1852, a committee was organized to establish a high school. In 1855, six-hundred-dollars was provided by the Selectmen of the Town of Bristol for the privilege of using a lower room in the high school building for holding town meetings.

In September 1856, the two-story Bristol High School opened; its first teacher was Horace Thomas. The school was moved to its present location on the Park from the corner of Maple and Pleasant Streets about 1876. This school constituted the basis



*Bristol Kindergarten (formerly Howden Hall)  
West Street*

of the old Bristol High School. About this time also, Bristol's first Village school was moved from its location (the present site of the Catholic Rectory) to Garfield Street and became a private residence.

By 1898, as the school on the Park was serving as both graded and high school, lack of space necessitated an addition to house the high school departments. Tuition was free to all pupils whose parents or guardians resided in Bristol. A furnace and running water were installed in the graded school at this time.

A Union School District was formed in 1907, consisting of Bristol, Lincoln, Starksboro, Monkton, and New Haven, and a superintendent was employed. A. W. Eddy of New Haven served as the first superintendent. At this time, there were thirty-six pupils in high school with a total of two-hundred-sixty-two in the whole school; one-hundred-twenty-five were in the six rural schools of Bristol. The high school was rated "first class" and offered college preparatory subjects and commercial courses in the fourth year.

In 1910, agriculture was added as an elective course.

In 1912, a two-story addition was built on the north side of the existing building and steam heat was installed. The next year John L. Selden came from Massachusetts to teach agriculture. He later served as principal, supervising principal, and superintendent of the district. Domestic science and teacher training, a course designed for rural teachers, were added to the curriculum. Athletics and music formed part of the school program.

About 1919, Bristol became a junior-senior high school, with six elementary grades, the seventh and eighth grades constituting the junior high school and taught in part by high school teachers. The remaining four grades made up the high school proper.

Only four rural schools remained open by 1929 and transportation became an important item in school costs.

In 1930, \$30,000 was voted to erect a supplementary building to provide additional classrooms, a gymnasium, and an auditorium. This addition, located to the north, was of modern, fireproof construction and connected to the old school by a passageway.

By 1941, the school population had increased to two-hundred-ten in the elementary school, fifty in the junior high, and one-hundred-fifty-six in the senior high, with only twenty-nine in the rural schools. Shop courses in electrical work and in auto mechanics had been introduced, but due to the war and scarcity of teachers, these projects had to be dropped. However, the A. Johnson Company made a farm machinery course available under the National Defense Training Program.

In 1948, the school board reported overcrowded conditions and the need for more rooms and better facilities. Normal improvements had been disrupted by the war, ensuing scarcities, and high construction costs. One





*Mountain Street School — Grades 1-4*



*Middle School — Grades 4-6*



*Mount Abraham Union High School*

elementary grade was being taught in the basement of Holley Hall. After the Advent Church closed its doors in 1947, the building was donated by the Howden heirs for school purposes. An industrial arts shop was set up in the lower part of the building.

The South Bristol School, the last rural school, was closed in 1950 and the total enrollment in Bristol was four-hundred-eight. The upper part of Howden Hall was converted to two classrooms and an office for the superintendent. John Selden resigned after thirty-seven years of devoted service to the schools of the district. He was succeeded by Milton G. Moore. A driver-training course was added; music, which had been missing, reappeared in the curriculum; and a physical education teacher was hired.

In 1952, it was voted to build a five-room building on Mountain Street on the so-called Kilbourn property. This new building was intended to house four elementary grades and provide a multi-purpose room. In 1953, the number of school directors was changed from three to five. In September 1953, the Mountain Street School was ready for use, but the multi-purpose room had to be converted immediately into a classroom. The rising birth rate due to war marriages forecast the pressing need for still more classroom space for the lower grades.

A citizens' study group, appointed by the Selectmen, recommended in 1955 the building of an addition to the Mountain Street School, to consist of seven classrooms and a multi-purpose room. This arrangement would care for twelve elementary classes and provide facilities for the hot lunch program. It was not until 1957, however, after five special town meetings, that the addition was open for occupancy.

By 1959, thirty-one teachers including the principal were employed. The school system, which had unavoidably lapsed from its high status prior to World War II, due to a scarcity of teachers, materials, low salaries and frequent changes in personnel, had been quietly and ably revitalized and expanded under the administration of Superintendent Ernest M. Coddington.



Sr. and Principal Richard Breen. About half the high school staff held Masters Degrees. College preparatory subjects offered included three years of Latin, French, and German; elementary, intermediate, and advanced algebra; plane geometry; trigonometry; the laboratory sciences: chemistry, physics, and biology. The commercial course covered four years of typing; shorthand and bookkeeping were taught in the last two years. Home economics and shop work were available and the music department offered band instruction and choral singing. Physical education brought sports and health education to everyone. These subjects were in addition, of course, to the basic subjects of English and history, with an elective course in speech.

At the resignation in May 1962, of Harvey Harkness, Jr., the teaching principal of the Mountain Street School, a self-governing group was formed by the teachers, and they developed a set of rules for the coming school term. This group served in place of a principal for the next year. In May 1963, Ralph Weinreber, a sixth grade teacher, signed a contract to become the teaching principal for the Mountain Street School.

Also in May 1963, the board approved the removal of the old bell and cupola from the high school building; it was removed in July 1963. In 1969, the bell was turned over to the Bristol High School Alumni Association which has subsequently built a display case for the bell in front of the old high school location by the Park.

In the fall of 1962, discussions for a proposed Union District High School began. By 1966, the state and local approval for a new high school had still not been obtained, while overcrowding and the deterioration of the old school building continued. In April 1967, the school board met with architect Julian Goodrich to plan rather extensive changes to the old building in order to accommodate the increasing number of students expected in the next school year. Four classrooms were developed from the old auditorium with a fifth classroom located behind the stage.



*School officials:*

*Keith L. Hall, Superintendent of Schools,  
Addison Northeast District;*

*Terrance Evarts, Elementary School Principal;*

*John D. Connolly, Mount Abraham Union High School Principal*



*Elementary School Board — 1979*

*Richard F. Estey; Karen Yager; Sylvia Coffin, Chairman; Edward Tucker, Jr.  
(Ralph Cook absent from photo)*

Overcrowding in the school year 1967-1968 caused classes to be held in the Baptist Church Hall; the second grade met in the Administration Building at the old Bristol Airport; and two trailers were added to the Mountain Street School site for additional classrooms. In the summer of 1968, the trailers were sold to the Town of Chester school board.

Educational Television was in-

stalled in the Mountain Street School in the summer of 1968; cable television was installed in the Middle School (the name given to the old high school which houses grades 4-6) in October 1969.

In January 1969, the Bristol School Board voted to rent Howden Hall and the old Bristol High School gymnasium and equipment to Union School District #28 for its use until the



second section of the new union high school could be completed. Later, in April 1971, the board signed a lease for Howden Hall to be used by the Headstart Program.

The elementary school board, established as a separate body from the Union High School District School Board in 1967, voted July 10, 1969, to demolish the front section of the old Bristol High School. The facade of the remaining building was repaired and the cellar hole filled with gravel and topsoil. The work was completed in the winter of 1970.

In 1971, a new floor was installed in the gymnasium of the Middle School.

At Town Meeting in March 1978, approval was given to establish a public kindergarten, to start that September. A morning and afternoon session was approved. Howden Hall was remodeled to accommodate the kindergarten.

There were four-hundred-sixty-two students in grades kindergarten through sixth for the school year 1979-80. Classes were held in Howden Hall (kindergarten), Mountain Street School (1-3), and the Middle School (4-6).

The following men have served as Principal: Charles S. Paige, 1892-1902; W.H. Botsford, 1902-1906; C.M. Hazen, 1906-1907; F.H. Wallace, 1907-1909; B.E. Hicks, 1909-1910; G.G. Newell, 1910-1913; J.O. Baxendale, 1913-1915; R.W. Hedges, 1915-1917; J.L. Selden, 1917-1935 (1928-1935 as supervising principal); L.R. Rowe, 1935-1939; J.L. Gunn, 1939-1943; R.E. Howes, 1943-1946; Clinton Demeritt, 1946-1947; Thomas Sullivan, 1947-1950; Stuart Marshall, 1950-1952; Richard Breen, 1952-1961; W. Neal Hoadley, 1961-1967 (transferred to the new union high school); and Terrance Evarts, 1967 to present.

## Union High School District #28

In 1962, because of increasing school enrollment, a committee was appointed to study the conditions existing in secondary education in the Addison Northeast Supervisory District. The committee, comprised of about fifty people from Bristol,

Lincoln, New Haven, and Starksboro, was headed by William Saunders of New Haven. Monkton soon became a member of this school district and sent members to participate in the study.

In the spring of 1963, a report of this committee was presented to the Superintendent of Schools, Ernest M. Coddington, Sr., calling for a union school for grades seven through twelve as the best answer to the secondary school problems of the five-town area. On December 1, 1965, the Town of Bristol voted to support a union district high school by a vote of three-hundred-ninety-six to thirty-seven.

Questions concerning the number of towns which would comprise the Union District #28, and whether a third union high school in Addison County was needed, caused delays lasting for years. It was not until June 9, 1966,

that the State Board of Education created the Union High School District designated as #28, comprised of the town school districts of Bristol, Lincoln, and Monkton. In July, Starksboro voted to become a member of the district; New Haven joined in August. On September 1, 1966, the organizational meeting took place and the elected school directors became the official board for the Union District.

After studying sites for months, the Union Board chose the site of the old Bristol Airport as the most suitable. On November 29, 1966, the Town of Bristol voted three-hundred-sixty-seven to one-hundred-thirty-one to authorize the sale of this site of about thirty-two acres to the Union District for \$33,000.

In January 1967, the Union Board held a meeting to formally elect the board members nominated from New



*Union High School District #28 — Union Board Members:*

*Seated: Sandra Foote\* — New Haven*

*Evelyn Dike, Clerk — Bristol*

*Bertha Hanson — Starksboro*

*Thomas Fisher, Vice Chairman — New Haven*

*Standing middle: Warren Whitcomb — New Haven*

*Edwin Hilbert, Jr. — Bristol*

*David Marsters — Lincoln*

*Standing back: George Strickholm — Lincoln*

*Martin Kamencik, Chairman — Starksboro*

*Thomas Yager — Bristol*

*Andrew Johnson — Bristol*

*Edward Nichols — Monkton*

*Carol Eldridge — Bristol (absent from photo)*

*Martin Hawkes — Monkton (absent from photo)*

\* Sandra Foote finished her term of office in March 1980. New Haven population called for only two representatives instead of three. Therefore, her position was not filled. Photo taken prior to March 1980.



Haven and Starksboro. Wayland Wright of Bristol was chosen as the chairman of the Board.

A vote approving a bond issue of \$2,981,000 was taken on April 12, 1967. The new school was to house the first indoor swimming pool in the state at the high school level. It would also contain twenty-two classrooms, a six-hundred-seventy-six seat auditorium, a gymnasium that would seat sixteen-hundred for activities such as graduation, and a ten-thousand square foot library. The architect who designed this was Julian Goodrich of South Burlington. Pizzagalli Construction Company of Burlington won the construction bid at \$2,988,000. The ground breaking took place October 11, 1967. The name of the school, chosen in December of 1967, was Mount Abraham Union High School; it was chosen in celebration of and in honor of the tallest mountain in Addison County.

In February 1968, Robert Hall became chairman of the Union School Board, because the first chairman, Wayland Wright, had died. The auditorium of the new school was named Wright Auditorium in his memory.

Mount Abraham Union High School opened a couple of weeks later than usual in September 1968. The classroom section of the building was the only part completed at this time. The first principal of the school was W. Neal Hoadley. The former administration building for the old airport was rented to provide offices for the Superintendent of Schools and his assistant; the building was eventually purchased for this purpose.

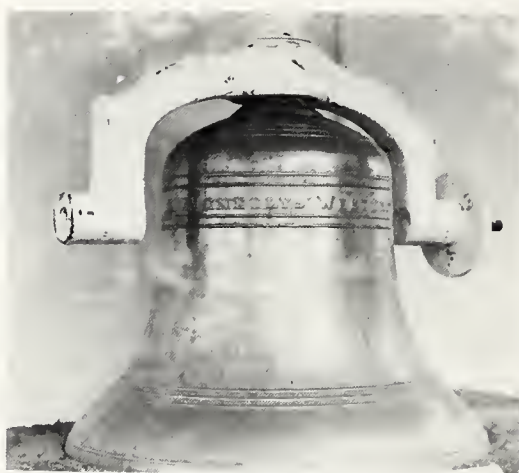
The following men have served as Principals of the Union District High School: W. Neal Hoadley, 1967-70; Clifford Veautour, 1970-71; John D. Connolly, 1971 to present. Following Ernest M. Coddington, Sr., as the Addison Northeast Superintendent of Schools was W. Neal Hoadley, 1970-73, and Keith Hall, 1973 to the present.

The Board of Directors of Union District #28 is comprised of members from the five towns that compose the district. There are no less than two directors from each town; the number

of directors from a town is determined by the population. Bristol elects five members to three-year terms at the annual town meeting. The Board oversees the operation of the high school.

The Union Board consists of the following people: Chairman, Martin F. Kamencik from Starksboro; Vice Chairman, Thomas E. Fisher from New Haven; Clerk, Evelyn D. Dike from Bristol; and members Carol T. Eldridge, Edwin A. Hilbert, Jr., Andrew F. Johnson, and Thomas A. Yager from Bristol; David A. Marsters and George E. Strickholm from Lincoln; Martin Hawkes and Edward W. Nichols from Monkton; Warren Whitcomb from New Haven; and Bertha B. Hanson from Starksboro.

Information compiled by Evangelyn Johnson.



*Bristol High School Alumni Memorial Bell —  
on exhibit in front of the Middle School —  
Park Place*

### **Bristol High School Alumni Memorial**

The first class to graduate from Bristol High School was in 1888 with seven members: Dr. E.D. Colby, Mary Dunshee Douglas, Dr. Edgar Farr, Frank Farr, Edith Huntington, Bert Hill, and Anna Sheldon Sturtevant.

When the Bristol High School Alumni Association was formed in 1913, one of the first graduates, Dr. Edgar Farr, a noted eye specialist in New York City, donated one dollar to establish a Bristol High School alumni building fund called the Edgar Farr

Fund. This amount seems small in the light of today's millions but large enough then to be considered an excellent gift. Each year it became the alumni president's project to earn money to add to the Fund and donations were solicited at yearly banquet/business meetings.

The idea of an alumni building had been changed to sponsoring one room, probably an auditorium, to be used by the alumni and the general public when a new high school should be built. In 1968, the last class graduated from Bristol High and the new school became Mount Abraham, a five-community project, so the membership voted to transfer the Farr funds to an alumni fund with the past presidents and each new president forming the permanent committee to handle it.

From time to time, doing something with the old school bell for the memorial had been discussed. This bell was cast in Troy, New York, in 1856, made of bronze, weight about three-hundred pounds, diameter twenty inches at the base.

The bell was atop the Bristol Graded School building when it was located at the northeast corner of Maple and Pleasant Streets. When the building was moved from that location to the site facing the Park, the bell made the trip with the building.

The bell called the youth of Bristol to the school building for one-hundred-six years, 1856-1962. When ringing became a danger, the bell was lifted out of the belfry by crane and stored in the school basement.

In 1974, the memorial committee submitted to the association the idea of housing the bell in a wooden structure four feet by eight feet by eight feet; the bell to be placed on a platform four feet above the ground and to be viewed through glass on three sides; the inside to be lighted for evening viewing. The response was gratifying and alumni contributions that year enabled construction to start.

Dedication ceremonies were held at the site of the bell showcase on July 4, 1975. The theme was "Life of This Bell; Symbol of the Youth of Bristol."

The alumni have also established a

perpetual fund, the interest of which will pay for yearly insurance and upkeep of the memorial. Personal gifts and memorial gifts have been received from nine classes between 1888-1910 and from every class 1911-1968 making this truly an alumni effort.

Written by Helen M. Lathrop, memorial chairman.

### **Middlebury College School of German**

The Middlebury College School of German was conducted in Bristol for

six weeks during July and August, the classes being held in the Bristol High School. The German School was established in Middlebury in 1915, the first of the Middlebury College language schools, but it was discontinued in 1918 due to World War I. When it was reopened in 1931, it was set up in Bristol according to the two leading principles of the Middlebury Idea — isolation from other educational projects and concentration on one subject. The students were pledged to speak nothing but German to each other during the six-week course. They

were housed in private homes but boarded at the Bristol Inn Annex, where all their social activities were held. Dr. Ernst Feiser, professor of German at Johns Hopkins University, headed the school after its reorganization in 1931. A class for beginners, a practical demonstration in teaching high school German, was available to students of Bristol.

In 1950, the German School returned to Middlebury, the College having been able to build dormitories to accommodate the summer students.



## XV Professional Men

### Attorneys

Samuel H. Holley, son of Robert Holley, one of Bristol's earliest settlers, was the first man to practice law in Bristol, as well as being one of the first to practice in Addison County. He attended school in Bristol and Middlebury and was graduated from West Point Military Academy. He then returned to Middlebury and studied law with Horatio Seymour. He was admitted to the bar in 1809 and opened his first law office in Shoreham. During the War of 1812, he held a captain's commission and participated in the warfare during the winter of 1813-14. About 1815, he came to Bristol and opened an office where he practiced until 1821, when he moved to Middlebury and began to practice with Mr. Seymour. He served as county judge from 1833 to 1842.

Horatio Needham was the next lawyer to practice here. He was born in Whiting, Vermont, in 1796. He began his study of the law in the office of Elijah Parker in Brandon and completed it with Samuel Holley in Bristol. He was admitted to the bar in 1821, opened his office here at that time, and continued his practice in Bristol until the time of his death in 1863. He was very active in town affairs, holding the office of Town Clerk for five years, that of Selectman for six years, and was representative to the General Assembly for four terms.

Joseph Bradley was an active lawyer in Bristol for several years but no information concerning his dates is available, except that he practiced here prior to 1880.

William H. Rider was born in Bristol in 1841 and studied law with Horatio Needham. In 1865, he was admitted to the bar and practiced here until the time of his death in 1915.

Lauren Scott and Riley Mardin were two other lawyers who were here during the early years of Mr. Rider's practice. Mr. Mardin specialized in claims and pensions. He was Super-

The next lawyer to establish a practice in Bristol was Joel Page who came here in the early part of the 1890's and practiced in Bristol until 1904 when he moved to Burlington. He continued his practice there and was later joined by his son, Guy Page.

Jasper Page was born in Bristol in 1874. He was graduated from Beeman Academy in New Haven and attended Albany Law School. He was admitted to the bar in 1906 and practiced in Bristol from then until the time of his death in 1924.

Three lawyers who came to Bristol after 1900 and who remained but a short time were: Murray Bourne, about 1908; Melwood Taft, about 1913; and Guy Townsend, who came in the middle of the 1930's.

Ezra S. Dike was educated in Bristol and at Vermont Academy in Saxtons River. He attended a business college in New York and then worked in law offices in Middlebury and Bristol. He studied law and obtained a law degree from LaSalle Extension University by correspondence. He was admitted to the Vermont State Bar in 1937 and has maintained a private practice in Bristol since that time. Mr. Dike served as a state representative in the Vermont Legislature for three sessions in 1951, 1953, and 1955. He was appointed Addison County State's Attorney by Governor Philip Hoff in 1966 and served until 1973.

David A. Bronson was born and raised in Addison County, Vermont. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Vermont. He continued his education in Maine and graduated from the University of Maine Law School. Mr. Bronson began his law practice in Bristol in May 1975. His office is located at 5 South Street. He presently serves as Bristol Village and Town Attorney.

George R. Vince started the private practice of law in Bristol in October 1975. His office is located on

Vince graduated from Bucknell University in Pennsylvania and received his law degree from American University, Washington College of Law, Washington, D.C.

Information for this article compiled from the *History of Bristol, Vermont*, First Edition and Second Edition, and from the July 26, 1978, edition of the *Valley Voice*, Middlebury, Vermont.

### Physicians

The list of physicians is in complete and in many cases no data is available. Where only one date is given, that represents the date at which practice was begun in Bristol. The first group of physicians is as follows: Dr. Joseph Cable, 1794; Dr. James Day, 1799-1814; Dr. Robert Smith, 1803; Dr. Joseph Needham, 1813-1833; Dr. Noble Finney; Dr. Franklin B. Hathaway; Dr. William C. Warner, 1843; Dr. Tousley; Dr. Frederick P. Wheeler; Dr. Levi Hasseltine; Dr. Oren Smith; Dr. S. A. Skinner; Dr. J. H. Steele; and Dr. White.

Dr. Elon B. Prime was born in Bristol in 1843. He graduated from Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, in 1870 and from the Royal College of Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1882. He practiced in Bristol from 1886 until his death here in 1896.

Dr. E. M. Kent, son of Dr. Marble Kent who had also practiced in Bristol at one time, graduated in 1866 from UVM Medical College. He came to Bristol that year and stayed until his death. In his later years, he changed from the practice of medicine to pharmacy and opened the drug store now known as the South Side Drug Store.

Dr. Ashbel Dean, born in Monkton in 1857, graduated from the New York University Medical College in 1878. He settled in Bristol immediately and remained until his death here in 1899. He, too, changed to pharmacy in his later years and opened a



drug store on the north side of Main Street.

Dr. D. A. Bisbee graduated from the University of Michigan in 1875 and came here in 1879. He started work here in the practice of medicine and later changed to pharmacy at the Village Drug Store.

During the 1880's and 1890's, there were three physicians in Bristol of whom little is known: Dr. Allen, Dr. Edgar Walker, and Dr. E. I. Hall. Dr. Hall was a homeopathic doctor and remained here for some time.

Dr. George Farnham graduated from UVM Medical College in 1884. He was here only two years, 1884-1886. While here, however, he started the prize speaking contests which were popular at that time and also the first lecture course ever given in Bristol. Among the lecturers in this course were Henry Ward Beecher and Russell Conwell.

Dr. Homer Bogue graduated from UVM Medical College in 1886 and settled here a year later. In 1894, he moved to California and was an outstanding surgeon and physician there.

Dr. Anson Norton was born in Bristol in 1863 and graduated from UVM Medical College in 1889. He was prominent in the political life of the town. He served with dedication during the influenza epidemic of 1919. He died in 1921.

Dr. George F. Edmunds was born in Irasburg and was a boyhood friend of Dr. Homer Bogue spoken of earlier. He came to Bristol in 1890. He attended UVM Medical College and graduated from Baltimore Medical College. In 1894, he bought Dr. Bogue's practice. He served the town in various capacities and worked as a physician here until his death in 1939.

Dr. Francis Briggs settled in Bristol in the late 1890's after graduating from Baltimore Medical College. He was a skilled surgeon as well as a family physician. Older residents also remember his musical talents. He died in Bristol in 1924.

Dr. Harold L. Williamson was born in Huntington, graduated from UVM Medical College, and established himself as a physician in Bristol in 1906. He served on many local boards

and for several years was President of the First National Bank of Bristol. He died here in 1953.

Dr. Max Thompson came to Bristol in the early 1920's after his graduation from UVM Medical College. He practiced here for three years and then moved to Rutland.

Dr. Edward Lane came to Bristol in 1924 from North Ferrisburg where he had practiced for a number of years. He worked in Bristol until his death in 1939.

Dr. Charles S. Paine, born in Randolph, graduated from UVM Medical College in 1932 and settled in Bristol in 1933. He had a large practice here and served until his death in 1952.

Dr. A. Harry Roller graduated in 1935 from UVM Medical College. He came to Bristol in 1939 and built up a sizeable practice. He died suddenly in 1948.

Dr. Charles K. Johnson came to Bristol about 1946. He was a Professor Emeritus of Pediatrics at UVM Medical College and was the first certified pediatrician in Vermont. He continued his practice in Bristol until 1958.

Dr. Harold E. Williamson, son of Dr. H. L. Williamson spoken of earlier, was born in Bristol. He graduated from UVM Medical College in 1940 and served several years in the U.S. Navy. He was chosen to go with Admiral Richard E. Byrd on the Antarctic Expedition, "Operation High Jump," and served as Senior Medical Officer, Flight Surgeon, on the U.S.S. Pine Island. He left Norfolk, Virginia, in December 1946, and returned to San Francisco in December 1947. In 1947, Dr. Williamson took over the office used by his father and has been practicing here ever since. He served Bristol for fifteen years as Public Health Officer from 1950 to 1965. He served as a Director of the First National Bank from 1948 to 1952 and as Vice President from 1952 to 1968. Since 1968, he has been on the Board of Advisors for the bank now known as The Merchants Bank. He is serving in that capacity currently, as well as carrying on a full-time practice.

Dr. Lindsay Robinson, a graduate of Toronto Medical College, came to Bristol in 1952. His poor health forced

him to give up his practice here.

Dr. Harley G. Shepard graduated from UVM Medical College in 1951. He located in Bristol in March 1953, on the second floor of the Lathrop Block. Later he moved his general family practice to 30 North Street. In September 1958, he moved to New Jersey where he lives at present and works as an industrial physician.

Dr. Dwight Kresge came to Bristol in 1959. He graduated from Temple University School of Medicine in 1953. He had additional training in pediatrics and in internal medicine after graduation. He served two years active duty in the U.S. Air Force and also had a private practice in Burlington before coming to Bristol. He was established in Bristol from 1959 to 1962. While here, he served on the Board of Education and as President of the Bristol Association for Retarded Children. He was also a member of the Vermont Air National Guard. Dr. Kresge is currently living in Connecticut and is a scientist in Aerospace Research with United Aircraft.

Dr. Dewees H. Brown was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and came to Bristol in July 1959. He graduated from UVM Medical College in June of 1954, did his internship at Western Pennsylvania Hospital, and his residency in internal medicine at Mary Fletcher Hospital in Burlington. From 1955 to 1957, between his internship and residency, he served in the U.S. Air Force. Dr. Brown built up a very large practice while in Bristol. During his stay here, he also served as athletics doctor for Mount Abraham Union High School, President of the Vermont Medical Society, President of the Vermont Academy of Family Physicians, and as a member of the Vermont Air National Guard. He was involved in many other community service groups including the Bristol Rescue Squad. Dr. Brown left Bristol in 1975 and is currently Director of the Family Practice Residency Program at Middlesex Memorial Hospital in Middletown, Connecticut. He and his family maintain their home here and often visit in Bristol.

In June 1964, Dr. Clark W. Bryant came to Bristol. He was born in



Pennsylvania and graduated from Temple University School of Medicine in 1961. He was in partnership with Dr. D. H. Brown for a short time. He became certified in internal medicine and family practice in 1967, and in June of that year moved his office to Middlebury. He is practicing there currently.

Also in 1964, Dr. Wayne E. Peters came to Bristol. Born in Iowa, he graduated in 1961 from the University of Iowa Medical School. He, too, was in partnership with Dr. D. H. Brown for a short time. In 1965, he worked part time in Bristol and part time in Middlebury. In 1966, he moved his office permanently to Middlebury and is practicing pediatrics there at present.

Dr. David F. Henderson arrived in Bristol in August 1975. He took over the former offices and practice of Dr. D. H. Brown. Dr. Henderson was born in Maine and graduated from the medical school at Jefferson University in 1969. He did a year of general internship from 1969-70. He worked as a physician at the Fort Berthold Reservation in North Dakota under the Indian Health Service from 1970-1973. From 1973 to 1975, he did his residency in internal medicine at UVM. He is a member of Alpha Omega Alpha, the honor medical society. Dr. Henderson is currently a member of the Bristol Rescue Squad and other Bristol community service organizations. He presently has a sizeable practice here in internal medicine.

## Dentists

In 1909, two dentists began the practice of their profession in Bristol. Dr. R.J. Bristol, who was born in the town, graduated from the University of Pennsylvania Dental College and returned to practice in his native town. Dr. Watson Morgan, a native of Lincoln, graduated from Baltimore Dental College and began his practice here at about the same time. Both men built up large practices and were always willing supporters of any moves for civic betterment. In 1924, Dr. Morgan's office and equipment burned, and he moved to Burlington to practice. Dr. Bristol retired due to poor health in 1946; he died in 1955.

Dr. William H. Cardell, Jr., a native of Bristol, graduated from New York University Dental School and opened an office here in 1946. Until 1970, he was the only dentist in town. Dr. Cardell retired from his practice in 1975.

Dr. David F. Gage graduated from the University of Pennsylvania, and began his practice of dentistry in Bristol in 1970. Dr. Gage purchased Dr. Cardell's practice and dental office at 34 Mountain Street and is located there at present.

Dr. Robert Frank briefly replaced Dr. Barkin in 1976. Dr. Frank left after six months and was replaced by Dr. Bruce Metz who served until he went into private practice in 1979. The present dentist is Dr. Kim R. Montgomery who plans to make the center his permanent career.

In 1977, Joseph Nolting replaced Barbara Brasure as Administrator. His work further improved the operation of the clinic, especially the bookkeeping and record keeping. It was his innovation to change the name from the Addison County Dental Clinic, Inc., to the present Addison County Dental Center, Inc. In 1978, Jim Finn replaced Joseph Nolting as Administrator. Mr. Finn resigned in 1979, and in September, Mrs. Brigitta D. Lawrence became a part-time Business Manager of the center.

Information for this article provided by Brigitta Lawrence and Barbara Brasure.

## Addison County Dental Center, Inc.

In 1972, after a Public Health Survey determined that there was a critical shortage of dental personnel in Addison County, the Addison County Dental Clinic was established. The clinic, also known as Tooth Hollow, provides non-profit professional dental care to residents of Addison County with special recognition of the needs of low-income residents. It was founded through the joint efforts of the National Health Service Corps, the Addison County Community Action Group allied with the County Developer of the Office of Economic Opportunity, and Vista Volunteers.

The National Health Service Corps supplied equipment and a den-

tist. The Addison County Community Action Group supplied a facility and waived rent during the formative stages. The clinic served its first patients in February of 1973, with Dr. Benjamin Lawton serving as the first dentist. In October 1973, Dr. Roger Barkin, another member of the National Health Service Corps became the clinic's dentist. Under Dr. Barkin the number of patients seen was greatly increased.

In the summer of 1973, David Rosen was hired as a part-time administrator in an effort to improve the clinic's income from patient fees and to coordinate fund raising. The outside fund raising was necessary if the sliding fee scale was to remain and service to low-income people to improve. Mr. Rosen was replaced by Ms. Barbara Brasure, and her work further improved the clinic.

On March 29, 1974, at approximately 3 p.m., fire completely destroyed the Addison County Dental Clinic located on Main Street. No one was injured, but there was no salvage of equipment, and many records were completely destroyed. Ms. Brasure immediately began trying to salvage the operation of the clinic. Arrangements were made to use Dr. Harvey Green's facilities, after hours, in Middlebury. Some dental work was done in Ms. Brasure's living room. In addition, her efforts raised the necessary funds and donations of equipment to reopen the clinic by the summer of 1974 in what was formerly known as Thompsons Store on Route 116, the present site of the clinic. Renovation and carpentry work on the clinic was supervised by Leon Jimmo, who volunteered his time and labor.

Today, the staff consists of one dentist, one dental assistant, a part-time dental hygienist, an outreach worker, a secretary-receptionist, and a business manager. A fifteen-member Board of Trustees meets monthly to oversee the affairs of the center.

The dental center consists of a fully equipped, two-chair dental operator, a room for oral hygiene instruction, a laboratory, a waiting room, and an administrator's office. The center is at present researching the possibility of a new site in the Town of Bristol.



## XVI Prominent Persons

### The Munsills (Late 1700's-1800's)

The Munsills figured extensively in the early activities of the Town of Bristol. Captain Gurdon Munsill was born in Windsor, Connecticut, October 26, 1760, and came to Bristol in 1789 where he lived in a log house which he had built. He was the first collector of taxes, a Selectman, and represented the town in 1796. He died in 1807.

Judge Harvey Munsill, one of his eight children, served the town in many capacities. He was Judge of Probate, 1836 to 1870, and Justice of the Peace for over thirty years. He also served the town as Selectman, Town Clerk, Town Agent, and Moderator. He was a Town Representative and a State Senator in 1842-1843. He was Captain of the First Brigade, Third Division, Vermont Militia. From 1828 to 1866, he was Master of Libanus Lodge. He died on April 11, 1876, full of years and covered with honor.

The Judge's only son, Harvey C. Munsill, was born in Bristol on June 22, 1824. He took over his father's real estate and at one time owned all the land west of Maple Street. He assisted in planting many of the maple trees on the streets of the town including all of them on Maple Street. He was a graduate of Middlebury College and practiced law. He dealt extensively in real estate and made several creditable additions to the village plot of Bristol. *The Early History of Bristol, Vermont* published in 1979 by the Bristol Historical Society was a direct copy of a manuscript written by the Honorable Harvey C. Munsill around 1860. His published information is a great addition to the complete history of our town. Also, Munsill Avenue took his name.

Harvey C. had three children: Newcomb H. (July 14, 1852-February 2, 1900); Seraph L. (May 17, 1863-August 20, 1865); and Charles E. (born May 27, 1867). The first son, Newcomb H. was responsible

for the Rock Spring Water Company which supplied piped water from springs off the mountain to lots bought from the Munsills in the 1880's. He extended the system and supplied a large majority of the families in the Village. In 1893, he presented the fire district with a hose cart and this was the start of the N. H. Munsill Hose Company, later to become the Bristol Fire Department as explained elsewhere in this book.

### The Munsons (Early 1800's)

According to Harvey C. Munsill's manuscript, Captain Noble Munson was born in Westfield, Massachusetts. He moved to Bristol and built and occupied the house now owned by Theodore D'Avignon at 29 North Street. Here he lived until his death in 1851. He served the town for many years as Selectman, Representative, and was the Town Treasurer for thirty-one successive years. He was in the Battle of Plattsburg. He was Captain of the Fourth Company Infantry in the

Second Regiment of the Militia of Vermont. Captain Munson was regarded as one of our most respected citizens.

Luman Munson, son of Captain Noble Munson, built one of the first frame houses, now owned by M. E. Sargent at 6 Park Place. The Munsons owned all the land extending between North, West, and Church Streets. The Munsons gave to the Town the land known as the Park. The following deed is recorded in Volume 7, Page 120, of the Bristol Land Records: "In consideration of the friendship, love, esteem and good will we have for the town of Bristol we quit claim a certain piece of land of about one and one-half acres of land for the express purpose of a public Common and Green and it is particular understood that the Selectmen of the town or any person shall not be at liberty to erect or build any house, shop or any building or fence the same up, or incumber in any wise by rolling logs or packing lumber, stone, brick, lime, clay, earth, or dig up the earth. It shall be and remain as a public Common without anything be-

*A view of the Park in days gone by —  
property given to the Town by the Munson family*





ing built or laid there on. In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands and seals the 21st day of April, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Twenty-seven. Luman Munson, George C. Dayfoot. Attest Winston H. Holley, Town Clerk, Bristol Vermont, April 21st, 1827."

### **The Hasseltines (1800's-1900's)**

About 1820, Joseph Hasseltine settled in Bristol. His son, Levi, became a physician and practiced in Bristol for many years. Levi's oldest son, Amos E. Hasseltine, was born in 1811, and about 1840 he settled in Bristol on the farm which he bought from his father-in-law, John Brooks. This farm on Bristol Flats is now owned by George Burritt and located on the west side of Route 116 south of the Hewitt Road intersection. Amos Hasseltine built the large house on this farm in 1856. Amos had one son, Erwin A. Hasseltine, who probably was the most widely known member of the family during his lifetime.

Erwin A. Hasseltine was born in Bristol on April 30, 1838, in a brick house on the east-west road by the New Haven River. This road, now abandoned, joined Carlstrom Road. Erwin A. Hasseltine was brought up on his father's farm on Bristol Flats and attended school at the Bristol Academy. He graduated in 1862 from Middlebury College. He taught school for a few years and then took up farming across the road from his father on the southeast corner of Hewitt Road and Route 116. Later, his son, Howard S. Hasseltine, farmed there. Erwin A. Hasseltine set out the maple grove now standing on the west side of Route 116 across the road from his farm. Later, Erwin moved back to his father's farm on Bristol Flats and helped his father operate it.

Erwin A. Hasseltine was always deeply interested in education. From 1888 to 1892, he was appointed supervisor of schools in Addison County. He then served as examiner of teachers in Addison County for several years. He was a member of the first Board of School Directors in Bristol and served as Superintendent for several years. In

1900, he was elected Judge of the Probate Court for the District of New Haven and held that position for fourteen years. He died November 7, 1923, at the age of eighty-five.

Judge Erwin A. Hasseltine had three sons. George, the oldest, graduated from Middlebury College and then studied law. At one time, he was a practicing attorney in Bristol. George died in Pasadena, California, in June 1941, at the age of sixty-nine. Another son, Howard, lived in Bristol all his life and was well known as a fine musician. He was a member of the former Bristol Military Band from 1905 until his death in 1958 and was its leader for many years. A third son, Herman E., attended Middlebury College and later graduated from the Baltimore Medical College in 1904. He became an officer in the Public Health Service and served in that capacity in many places in the United States. He worked three years at the United States Leprosy Station in Hawaii. Later, Dr. Herman E. Hasseltine was placed in charge of the United States Public Health Service Hospital at Carville, Louisiana, where he served from 1935 to 1940. In 1938, he was chairman of the United States delegation to the International Leprosy Congress in Egypt. He retired in 1945 and spent his summers at his home in Bristol at 143 North Street. He died June 8, 1968, and was buried in the Hasseltine family plot in Greenwood Cemetery.

### **Noble F. Dunshee (1833 - 1923)**

Mr. Dunshee, commonly known as Colonel Dunshee, was born April 4, 1833, and spent most of his life in Bristol. In 1849, however, he went with two friends to the California gold fields but evidently did not make any startling strikes. His only "discovery" was the Town of Denver where he purchased a sizeable piece of real estate.

In February 1857, Mr. Dunshee married Charlotte Soper, the ceremony being performed by Reverend David Bosworth. Less than ten years later, rumblings of the Civil War were troubling the whole country. Mr. Dunshee organized the Vermont State Volunteer Militia at Bristol on

September 8, 1862. It was mustered into service at Brattleboro on October 21, 1862. Mr. Dunshee was Captain of Company G, 14th Regiment, and served until the end of the war.

He started a dry goods business in 1883 in company with Willis Peake. Later he established himself in the so-called Dunshee Block at the east end of Main Street on the south side. Here, with his son, Harry, he carried on the dry goods store until his death on April 4, 1923, at exactly ninety years of age. Mr. Dunshee was known far and near as a fine, reliable businessman. His son continued with the business for several years.

Noble Dunshee was interested in politics and in 1863 was a member of the Vermont State Legislature. Another interest was in race horses. He owned and drove some fine racers.

Mr. Dunshee and his family lived on West Street for many years. Their house was a Bristol landmark. In 1957, this house was moved back to make way for a Gulf Oil station.

### **Jeremiah Curtin (1835-1906)**

Jeremiah Curtin was a noted author, translator, and diplomatic interpreter. He was born in 1835. There is now an historical museum in Greenfield, Wisconsin, where he was raised. In adult life, he married Alma Cardell of Bristol. He went on to travel much of the world and broaden his knowledge of other languages. He served as Secretary to Cassius Clay, the Minister to Russia during the mid-1860's, under President Abraham Lincoln's administration. He was much in demand as a translator and is perhaps best known for his interpretation of *Quo Vadis* written in Polish by Sienkiewicz. The book was on the best-seller list.

While in this country, Mr. and Mrs. Curtin made their home with her sister, the late Jenny Cardell Norton, wife of Dr. Anson M. Norton of Bristol. Jeremiah Curtin died in 1906. His wife completed and published many of his works and finished his biography entitled *Memoirs of Jeremiah Curtin*. The last fifteen years of her life, Mrs. Curtin lived in Bristol at 34 Mountain Street with her sister, Jen-



ny, and her brother, William H. Cardell, Sr.

Jeremiah Curtin was truly a brother to all of the world. He was buried in Greenwood Cemetery in Bristol, and the inscription on his original tombstone was written by President Theodore Roosevelt. It read: "He traveled over the whole world, calling all men brothers and learning to speak to them in seventy languages." Some years later, a mausoleum was built and Jeremiah Curtin's remains were transferred to a vault therein and the inscribed marker placed under his coffin. Therefore, it is not where it can be read. Mrs. Alma Curtin died April 14, 1938, and is also buried in Greenwood Cemetery.

The information on Jeremiah Curtin has been somewhat corrected and expanded since the write-up in the 1959 edition of this book. These corrections are possible because of factual information supplied by Lura and William H. Cardell, Jr., from the Curtin biography, and also material submitted by Jeremiah C. Cardell.

#### **William A. Lawrence (1856-1915)**

Mr. Lawrence was born in Monkton, Vermont, on September 21, 1856. Through many years, he was one of the prominent men of this town. He has left the Lawrence name on our library and on the lane beside the library.

Mr. Lawrence attended high school in Vergennes, after which he returned to farming in Starksboro. In 1881, he came to Bristol and began speculating in cattle, horses, and farm products until 1884. That year he embarked in the carriage business which continued for the following fifteen years. In 1899, he turned his entire attention to his stock business, buying horses in carload lots from Iowa and Missouri. He usually kept about seventy-five horses in his Bristol stables. He was known as the most extensive dealer in horses in the Green Mountain State.

For fourteen years, Mr. Lawrence was Sheriff of Addison County. He served as President of the Addison County Agriculture Society, was one

of the Directors of the National Bank of Middlebury, and was a Vice President of the Vermont Mutual Fire Insurance Company. While President of the Greenwood Cemetery Association, he was instrumental in getting water piped in and connected to a fountain which he had contributed. It was through his efforts and financial help that the iron fence was built that enclosed the entire cemetery.

In March 1876, Mr. Lawrence was married to Lockie Partch of Hinesburg. She died in December 1889. For his second wife, Mr. Lawrence chose Minnie Morrison Peet of Starksboro whom he married in

and lived in the elegant three-story home at 48 North Street on the corner of Spring Street. William Lawrence died in March 1915 at the age of fifty-eight.

#### **Arthur W. Prince (1876 - 1962)**

For more than a score of years, Arthur Watson Prince was the uniformed coachman hired by the former Bristol Inn to transport guests arriving or leaving from the Bristol Railroad Station on North Street. He was better known to Bristol residents as "Dude."

Dude was born in Bristol in 1876 and was married to the former Alice Edwards of Hinesburg. Dude became a



*Arthur (Dude) Prince with the Bristol Inn stagecoach*

March 1901. Minnie Lawrence was killed in a Rutland Railroad collision in Vergennes in 1906. Soon after her death, he built the Lawrence Memorial Library in memory of his two wives, Lockie Partch and Minnie Peet. The houses on Lawrence Lane, as well as the house on the south side of the library, were deeded to the library with the rental income from them benefiting the library fund. The large window in The Federated Church was also a memorial gift in the Lawrence name.

In addition to the houses on Lawrence Lane, Mr. Lawrence built

favorite person in town. He knew everybody and everybody knew him. A party to celebrate his eightieth birthday was held in Holley Hall on September 24, 1956. More than two hundred people came to honor him at that time.

After the Bristol Railroad stopped running in 1930 and the Bristol Inn coach was retired, Dude started winding the clock located in the belfry of Holley Hall. He continued this weekly ritual for the next twenty-five years at which time he gave up the task to a younger man. He was often seen doing odd jobs around town.



Dude is a man fondly remembered in the history of our town by those who were fortunate enough to have known him. On October 10, 1962, Dude died in Bristol at the age of eighty-six. He was buried in Greenwood Cemetery beside his wife who had died five months earlier on May 30, 1962.

### **John (Jack) Guinan (1889-present)**

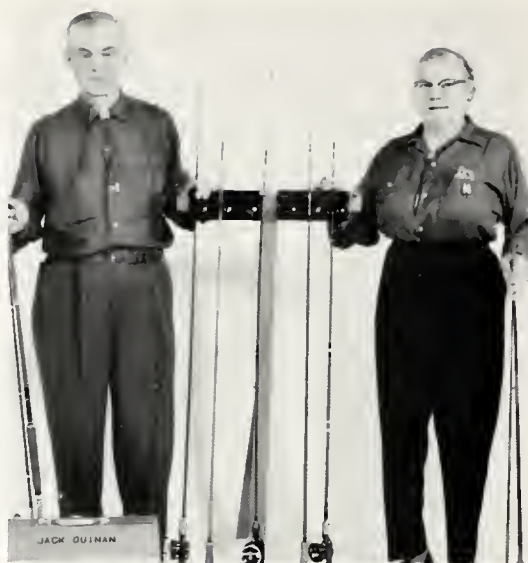
John (Jack) Guinan was born in Bristol on December 21, 1889. His father, George Guinan, played the trumpet professionally and Jack's family moved often so his father could continue his musical career. Jack spent most of his school and working years in Connecticut and Massachusetts. Every few years, however, the family moved back to Bristol. Jack's father directed the Bristol Town Band in the early 1900's when the family was here, and Jack played trombone in the band for several years. George Guinan encouraged his son's musical talent as well as his fishing ability for which Jack became nationally known.

On June 10, 1919, Jack married Vira Ogden. They lived in Connecticut, and Jack started a thirty-five year career with Aetna Life and Casualty Insurance Company.

In 1947, Jack joined the National Association of Angling and Casting Clubs (NAACC). He won the first amateur event he ever entered, a dry fly accuracy event. Jack soon entered amateur competitions throughout the country and earned recognition for his expertise. In 1952, he was elected president of the NAACC, later called the American Casting Association.

Jack turned professional in 1955 when he retired from the insurance business and moved back to Bristol. He launched a new career for himself with Vi working as his assistant. For over ten years, Jack and Vi toured the United States extensively doing clinics and casting exhibitions. Their shows included demonstrations of accuracy and control with both fly rod and bait rod. With Vi's help, Jack performed many trick and fancy casts as well.

Jack also displayed his casting talents in two movies and in several commercials. Many were made on the New Haven River here in Bristol. Jack



*John and Vira Guinan with their fly and bait casting equipment — 1957*

appeared on many television talk shows as well.

During his fly and bait casting career, Jack was awarded over three hundred trophies and medals. In 1955, Jack won the Eastern U.S. Dry Fly Accuracy Championship, the Eastern U.S. All Accuracy Fly Championship, and the Eastern U.S. Professional All Round Casting Championship. He participated in casting exhibitions until the early 1970's.

Vi Guinan died in June 1977. Jack moved to Yuma, Arizona, a year later where he lives presently with his son Everest. Jack often returns to Bristol to spend his summers. At age ninety, Jack is still an avid sports fan.

### **Merritt P. Allen (1892-1954)**

The following article appeared in the September 1954 issue of "Young Wings": "You'll Always Find a Way Out" by Merritt Parmelee Allen.

"I was born and raised here on a farm at Bristol, Vermont, where my family have lived for generations. I took for granted that I would continue that way of life, and I learned how to care for livestock and soils; how to work and how to handle the Yankee

hired man, who is the most independent person on earth.

"We took our fun wherever and whenever we found it. We hunted, trapped and played ball in the pasture. Some of the boys wanted to be President, but I dreamed only of becoming a big league pitcher or a Hudson Bay Trapper. Without radio and television, we had to use our imagination by reading and re-creating what we read. Fortunately I had access to good books. And there never were and never will be any periodicals to match the Youth's Companion and St. Nichols. In later years, I had the honor of contributing to both magazines.

"So it went until at the age of seventeen, while I was in high school I was knocked flat by polio. I came back enough to be on my feet a little but most of the time has been spent in a wheel chair. Every plan I had dreamed of making had to be scrapped and a new set of values built to meet the situation. Formal education was out; self education began and is still very much in progress.

"My thoughts turned to writing. I had to learn to use a whole new set of tools and invent others to meet my needs. So the product was long in taking shape. Slowly a few pieces passed inspection by publishers. Now I have written short stories and serials, radio serials and one act plays, parts of half a dozen anthologies, and more than twenty-eight books for boys, most of them adventure yarns based on American history.

"I am telling you this on the chance that it may reach someone who thinks all doors have been slammed in his face. If he will try and keep on trying long after common sense tells him to quit, he will find a door that can be opened. He will need help, the indispensable help of family and friends, for no one, no matter how tough he thinks he is, can do it alone. Especially will he need the help of someone like Vera Cline, who has been my nurse and partner for many years. She intuitively understands many things I never could figure out. And we find pleasure in work, friends, birds and flowers."

Merritt P. Allen was born July 2, 1892, and died December 26, 1954.



Among his many books are: *The Green Cockade*, *The Mudhen*, *The Silver Wolf*, *The Spirit of the Eagle*, *Western Star*, *The Wilderness Way* and *The Sun Trail*.



*Dr. David M. Bosworth — 1897-1979*

### **Dr. David M. Bosworth (1897-1979)**

Dr. David Marsh Bosworth, one of Bristol's most distinguished citizens, was born in New York City to Reverend B. Boardman Bosworth and Phoebe Marsh Bosworth on January 23, 1897. Reverend Bosworth built the Washington Heights Baptist Church in New York City in the 1890's.

Dr. Bosworth was educated in New York City schools. He received his B.A. Degree in 1918 and his Medical Degree in 1921, both Cum Laude, from the University of Vermont. He interned at Mary Fletcher Hospital in Burlington and the Women's and Welfare hospitals in New York City. After his internship, he answered a call to return to his Alma Mater to teach gross anatomy for three years.

Dr. Bosworth then entered a three-year course of study in orthopedics at New York Orthopedic Hospital. Shortly thereafter he joined the Orthopedic Staff at St. Luke's Hospital. Dr. Bosworth served on the staff of several other hospitals in the New York area as teacher and surgeon.

He became Chief of Orthopedics at St. Luke's Hospital in New York City and Chief of Staff at Seaview Hospital on Staten Island. Dr. Bosworth spent a life of service in the

world of orthopedics from 1928 to November 1978, when he performed his last major operation here in Vermont.

Dr. Bosworth served for a term as president of the American Orthopedic Association. He was also a member of Phi Beta Kappa and Alpha Omega Alpha, Medical Honor Society. He developed twenty-seven original operative procedures, some of which bear his name.

Dr. Bosworth was presented the Second Order of the Sacred Treasure award in 1968 by Japanese Emperor Hirohito. He was the only foreign recipient of this award. It stemmed from Dr. Bosworth's work with the Japanese regarding treatment of bone and joint tuberculosis. Dr. Bosworth had a policy of training promising young physicians not only from the United States, but also from thirty-seven other countries. In selecting candidates from abroad, he required that they return to practice in their home countries after completing their training.

In 1974, he received the Distinguished Service Award of the UVM Medical Alumni Association. In 1978, the UVM College of Medicine dedicated a library in his honor in the Depart-

ment of Orthopedic Surgery. The library houses Dr. Bosworth's personal library, which he donated to the college.

Dr. Bosworth's wife, Dorothy Drake Lawrence, daughter of C. Ellsworth and Miriam Drake Lawrence was born in Bristol in October 1896. Mrs. Bosworth's father owned a shoe store here. Mrs. Bosworth's mother charmed audiences in Bristol with her fine singing voice. Mrs. Bosworth, herself, studied singing for awhile until she was privileged to participate in her husband's mission of administering to the needs of orthopedic patients. Mrs. Bosworth's grandfather, T. S. Drake, was one of the founders of the Drake, Smith & Company. Her maternal great-grandfather, Captain Solomon Drake, built the First Baptist Church of Bristol. Dr. and Mrs. Bosworth first met in second grade and later at the University of Vermont. They were married September 20, 1921, in the Baptist Church built by her great-grandfather. The Bosworths had one daughter, Lorraine Bosworth Lilley, born March 15, 1928, and three grandchildren: Lorraine Ann, Ernest David, and Theodore Bosworth Lilley.

In 1975, they retired to the Bosworth Homestead from New Jer-



*The Bosworth Homestead — located on the corner of Park Place and North Street*



sey. This move fulfilled Dr. Bosworth's dream to sometime return to his grandparents' home where he had spent his happiest summer days during childhood. Dr. Bosworth died in Bristol on July 11, 1979. His life was well spent in service to the lame and crippled.

### *The Bosworth Homestead*

Standing prominently on the north side of the Park in Bristol is the Bosworth Homestead at 1 Park Place. This home, along with the barn and the present Sargent home at 6 Park Place, were the first wood frame buildings in town. The rear wing of the Bosworth house dates back to 1794. Most of the house dates from about 1868. The later additions include the two big front parlors and the upstairs front bedrooms with the hallways and staircase. The columned front porch was also added later.

The Bosworth Homestead barn was built after 1800. The weathervane now on the barn was formerly on the First Baptist Church of Bristol before that building was remodeled in 1925.

The Reverend David Bosworth came to Bristol about 1868 with his

second wife, Caroline Melissa Boardman Bosworth. They had five children: B. Boardman (later to become Dr. David Bosworth's father), M. Helen, Myra, Grace M., and David R.

The Bosworth family has long been prominent in Bristol and for many years owned the Bristol Manufacturing Company. Two daughters, Helen and Grace, lent their artistic talents to this home.

Miss Helen Bosworth designed the present fireplace in the living room. This fireplace was built about 1923 on the foundations of the old fireplace "with its stack of chimneys, its ovens, hanging crane, and various utensils used for all cooking and heating of house." Helen also wrote the family history of many of the lovely antiques found in the home.

Miss Grace Bosworth was a very experienced painter. The house is filled with her lovely oil paintings; delicately painted china; and hand-painted murals in the dining room and living room. The former carriage house behind the home was converted into a studio for her use.

Their mother, Madame Caroline Bosworth, born November 1, 1840, designed the unusual garden on the

North Street side of the home. The garden was fashioned into thirteen beds to represent the thirteen original colonies. Of historical interest is the peony bed whose original roots are said to have been brought from China by an ancestor who was a sea captain.

Over the front door of the Bosworth Homestead is the Latin motto: "Animus Valet." Dr. David Bosworth preferred the translation, "The Spirit Conquers," rather than the translation which appeared in the Second Edition of this history. The house stands serene behind its interesting white wooden fence.

Dr. Bosworth installed thirty-seven flag staff holders on the house and fence to display his splendid collection of world flags. These flags were raised in honor of the countries of foreign students who had studied under the doctor. The Bosworth Homestead was an elegant addition to the Bristol Historical Buildings Tour held in September 1978. This early home of Bristol will surely provide many more years of pride for the Bosworth family and the residents of Bristol.

Information compiled by Dorothy Bosworth.

## XVII Clubs and Organizations

At present several organizations are active in Bristol. These groups focus on different interests and often benefit the Bristol community through their various service projects.

In the early 1940's, the house at 1 North Street which faces the Village Park from the east was known as the Gaige-Moor Community House. This gracious Federal-style home was built in 1817 by Abram Gaige. It was passed through five generations of the Gaige-Moor-Ives family and then was offered to the Town of Bristol in 1939 as a community house. The only conditions were that the Town keep up the insurance and assume the necessary repairs. It was well used by many groups and provided a central meeting place for Bristol activities. After a short time, upkeep costs proved to be too high, and the house reverted back to the Gaige-Moor-Ives family. It was then sold as a private residence to Mr. and Mrs. James Tomasi who have maintained the elegance of this lovely home. This home was shown on the Bristol Historical Buildings Tour in September of 1978.

### American Legion

The American Legion Post #19 was organized in 1920 when Dr. Harold L. Williamson called a meeting in the basement of Holley Hall. At that meeting, Bristol Post #19 was organized and Dr. Williamson was elected the first Post Commander. There were fifteen charter members. Francis Kilbourn, who died in 1979, was the last charter member of Post #19. For a time, very little interest was shown in Legion activities and the charter was surrendered. The Post reorganized about five years later.

The American Legion Auxiliary was also formed, functioned a short time, and then gave up its charter. The Auxiliary reorganized in 1935. In 1952, Post #19 and its Auxiliary formed a corporation called The American Legion Home, Bristol Post #19 Incorporated.

The present Acting Post Commander is Eldon Chandler and the Auxiliary President is Alice Clapper.

The American Legion met in various meeting rooms around town until they built the American Legion Home on Recreation Club land that was leased for ninety-nine years. The home was opened in May of 1953. The sign on the roof was painted by Jack Wendel in 1960. A mortgage-burning ceremony was held in February 1965. The original home has been enlarged and the basement finished. The space is used by several groups in town as a meeting place, as well as for Legion functions. An additional building was constructed on the west side of the home to store hospital equipment which is loaned free of charge to local residents.

In 1978, uniforms to be used for military funerals, parades, and other Legion activities were purchased for members of the firing squad and color guard. Auxiliary hats were purchased for the women at this time.

The chief aims of the American Legion are to promote Americanism and to continue involvement in community projects. Both groups have made numerous donations to scholarships, Porter Hospital, Bristol Rescue Squad, Bristol Fire Department, Bristol Historical Society, as well as other worthwhile causes. They sponsor students at both Boys and Girls State. They have assisted with projects at the Veterans' Hospital, Helen Porter Nursing Home, Little League, and Pre-school Clinics. Books, flags, and playground equipment have been given to the local schools. Starting in 1955 and continuing for several years, the American Legion and the Recreation Club co-sponsored the Bristol Country A-Fair. Currently, the Recreation Club alone is in charge of this event.

On Memorial Day, Post #19 organizes a service at the Village Park. The color guard and firing squad proceed to the local cemeteries alternating each year between Greenwood Ceme-

tery and Mount Saint Joseph Cemetery, for brief services there.

The observance of Memorial Day in Bristol began in 1889. A Bristol post of the Grand Army of the Republic was formed and named the W. C. Duntton Post. A chapter of another Civil War organization was formed in Bristol sometime during the 1890's called the N. F. Dunshee Camp Sons of Veterans. The group was named after Colonel N. F. Dunshee because of his splendid record as a Civil War soldier. This group met regularly for several years.

In recognition of early veterans, in 1928 the Woman's Relief Corps, affiliated with the Grand Army of the Republic, placed a bronze tablet on a marker in the Park in memory of the Bristol soldiers who participated in the Civil War. That tablet reads: "In grateful recognition of the patriotic devotion and loyal service of our Vermont soldiers 1861-1865. Honor to whom honor is due. This tablet is erected by the Woman's Relief Corps of Bristol, Vermont. 1928." The American Legion Post #19 placed another bronze tablet on a large rock in the Park listing the Bristol men who served in World War I. Post #19 erected an Honor Roll of World War II veterans, both men and women, in front of Holley Hall. This Honor Roll board was destroyed by a hurricane a few years later. In 1966, the Bristol Veterans' Memorial Park, as described in this book under Interesting Spots, was dedicated to the veterans of World War II and the Korean Conflict.

### Military History

The first militia company in Bristol was organized June 7, 1791. It was the 10th Company, 2nd Regiment, 6th Brigade Vermont Infantry. Cyprian Eastman was Captain and Benjamin Clapp was Lieutenant. Another company, the Light Infantry, was organized June 1, 1808, with Captain John Kilbourn and Lieutenant Jehiel Saxton. The infantry uniforms



consisted of scarlet coats with white and buff facings, white pants with black half-gaiters, white vests, black stockings, and citizens round hats with a brass piece in front. These companies did their full share in helping to enforce the Embargo Act of 1808. Sixty-six men from Bristol took part in the Battle of Plattsburg.

Records of the Grand Army of the Republic were burned in the 1924 Main Street fire, so their list of Civil War veterans was destroyed. At the end of this book, however, is a list of these veterans obtained from H. P. Smith's *History of Addison County* and from gravestones in Greenwood Cemetery.

Also at the end of this book are lists of the known Spanish-American War veterans, World War I veterans, World War II veterans, Korean Conflict veterans, and Vietnam Era veterans.

Information researched by Christine Levarn.

## Boy Scouts

Information regarding Boy Scouts in Bristol prior to 1960 is very sketchy. About 1960, John Brown and Bill Grant provided leadership for a Cub Scout program for eight to eleven year olds and Scouting remained active for about five years with the help of Helen Brown, Marie Dion, Lelah Estey, Ruth Lathrop, Charlotte Nelson, and others. Following this period, there was a decline until Ronald Williamson became acting Cub Master in 1968. From 1972 to 1975, Michael Liberty led the Cub Scouts. 1976 was an inactive year and then in 1977 Warner Pierce took over. The next year Michael Liberty again led the Cub Scouts and was assisted by Brian Haney, Jim Hines, Patricia Liberty, Rachel Lossmen, Barbara Prime, and several others. Today Cub Scouting continues with Brian Haney as Cub Master. There are fifty registered Cub Scouts.

Boy Scouts for the older boys was reorganized by Merrill Masse in 1970. Presently Robert Blodgett is Scout Master for twelve registered Boy Scouts.

Over the years, the scouts have enjoyed marching in local parades, field

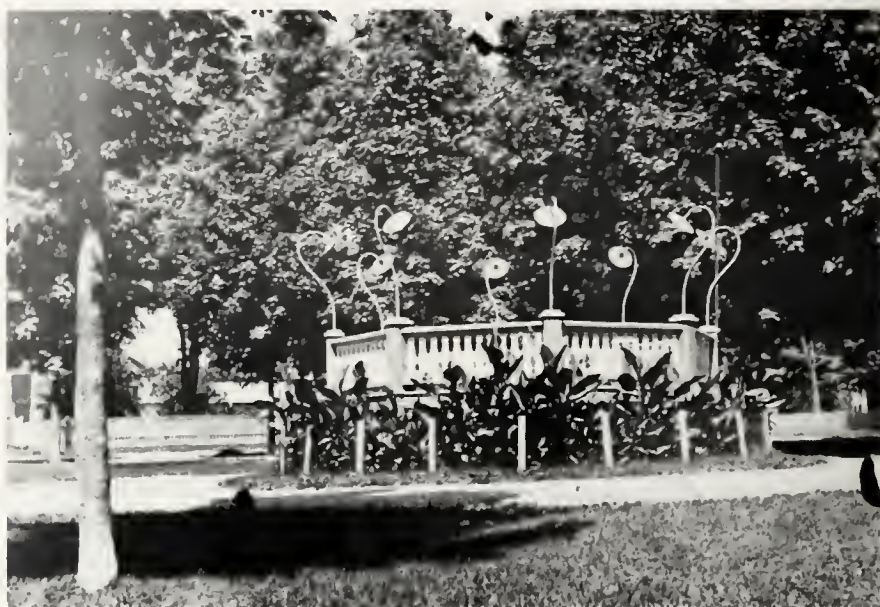
trips, camporees, and working on merit badges. They currently meet at The Federated Church.

## Bristol Town Band

Bristol Village band concerts date to the 1870's and are still a popular attraction on the outdoor bandstand on the Village Park on Wednesday evenings during the summer. It is the only

town band in the State of Vermont to remain in existence for so many years. The band concert tradition began many years ago when people met to visit as well as hear the music by their neighbor musicians.

In 1884, the group was known as the Cornet Band. In time this split into two groups, one to be called the Citizens Band and the other, Bristol



*Bristol Town Band  
Early photo of the Bristol bandshell as it looked in the 1930's*



*Bristol Bandstand —  
located on the Park — 1979*



Cornet Band. Each put on a concert on the same night. One band played on the steps of the Bristol Inn and the other on the porch of the Hatch Block (known in 1979 as the Bristol Tavern). They took turns playing selections. This dual situation existed for several years, at which time, the Bristol Military Band was formed from both groups. This name was retained until 1969 when the present title of Bristol Town Band came into use.

The only illumination for early musicians was kerosene torches held by youngsters. These were replaced by electric lights. The first bandstand was built around 1913. In 1937, a modern bandstand with sounding board cover was erected.

Previous to 1900, the Bristol Band was directed by Mr. Allie Vittum; from 1900 to about 1905 by George Guinan; from 1905 to around 1927 Howard Hasseltine and Mr. Guinan shared the directorship; from 1928 until the late forties and early fifties by John L. Selden.

In the early fifties, the membership declined and members combined with the Vergennes Band giving two concerts each week — one in Vergennes and one in Bristol.

From 1951 to about 1954, Franklin "Bud" Comstock lead the Bristol concerts and David Aubin and William Andrews of Vergennes led the bands in Vergennes.

About 1955, the Vergennes Band disbanded and the members joined the Bristol Band. At about that time, Roy J. Clark was elected director and has continued to lead the Bristol Band up to the present time. Currently the band members number sixty and include musicians of all ages. The oldest active member of the band is Milton "Zip" Elmer of East Middlebury who has participated for forty-five years.

Each year townspeople appropriate a sum of money to support the band. Rehearsals begin in the spring and concerts are held from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Thirteen concerts are scheduled for the Park. The band also plays in neighboring communities.

In the World War I years, the band rehearsed over the present Ben Franklin Store. In 1925, they moved

their rehearsals to rooms over the E. N. Dike Hardware Store, later moving to the basement of Holley Hall.

Special mention should be made of Mr. Bert N. Hill who was active in the Bristol Band and served as manager for many years until his death in 1960. Mr. Hill was responsible for keeping the band active during the years that it was necessary to combine with the Vergennes Band and it was through his efforts that the Bristol Band was re-activated in the middle fifties.

Upon the death of Percy Currier, of Ferrisburg, a band member for many years, his family donated a sum of money and the Percy Currier Memorial Fund was established. Income from this fund is used to pay partial tuition for students attending a music camp or school. Other memorial contributions have been used for the same purpose.

Written by Roy J. Clark.

### **Bristol Chamber of Commerce**

The local Chamber of Commerce has been active on and off for several years, dating back to at least the 1920's when the organization was trying to eliminate some of the eyesores in Bristol. The Chamber was active in 1939 when the Gage-Moor Community House was placed under its supervision.

In 1971, the Chamber was rejuvenated again. The local merchants felt there should be a revitalization of the business center. However, interest in an organized group seemed to wane. Currently an informal gathering of the local businessmen takes place daily. Common interests and concerns are discussed. Through this informal exchange, communication goes on among the town's merchants.

### **Bristol Historical Society**

On June 5, 1977, a small group met at the home of Dorothy and Winfred Trudo to discuss the formation of an historical society in Bristol. Those present were Howard and Anna Gladding, John and Elizabeth Hise, John and Barbara Kennedy, Leland and Nina Landon, and Winfred and

Dorothy Trudo. The proposal was readily approved by all present and plans were made for a public meeting.

Such a meeting was held on July 14, 1977, at Holley Hall. Mr. Weston A. Cate, Jr., Director of the Vermont Historical Society, spoke on the purpose of such societies and how to organize them.

Dorothy Purinton Trudo served as temporary chairman during the summer of 1977.

On August 4, 1977, the first formal meeting of the Bristol Historical Society was held and the following officers were elected: James Bouvier, President; Constance LaRose, Vice President; Howard Gladding, Treasurer; and Lillian Lambertson, Secretary.

Several projects were proposed for the Society. They were: publish the "Munsill Papers," a history of Bristol written by the Honorable Harvey C. Munsill in 1860; publish a pictorial history of Bristol; and help to publish the Third Edition of the *History of Bristol, Vermont*. Publication of the "Munsill Papers," formally titled, *The Early History of Bristol, Vermont* was completed in December 1979; publication of the Third Edition of the *History of Bristol, Vermont* was completed through the combined efforts of the Outlook Club of Bristol, Vermont and the Bristol Historical Society in 1981, and the pictorial history will be along soon.

When the Historical Society first met, it gathered in the Town Manager's office. Interest in the organization was great enough to fill that space to overflowing, so a larger area was sought. In the spring of 1978, after receiving approval from the Town, work began on the old jail, in the basement of Holley Hall, to convert it into the new Bristol Historical Society headquarters and a museum area. With many helping hands, especially from the Rotarians, the space began to shape up. In late summer, an active fund-raising effort was made on behalf of the building. Then at the Town Meeting in 1979, \$2,000 of Revenue Sharing Funds was obtained to finish the project. On July 7 and 8, 1979, the Bristol Historical Society opened its doors to the public. Much of the credit



for the Society's new home goes to Winfred Trudo, who drafted the architectural plans and to Howard Gladding, who was responsible for the construction activities.

The 1979-80 officers of the Bristol Historical Society are: Gertrude Hewitt Lathrop, President; Bill Paine, Vice President; Howard Gladding, Treasurer; and Lillian Lambertson, Secretary.



*Bristol Historical Society Sign*



*Bristol Historical Society — ribbon cutting ceremony, July 7, 1979  
(left to right):*

*John Hise; Lyman Rowell, President of Vermont Historical Society; Howard Gladding; Miriam Burke; Gertrude Lathrop; Anna Gladding; Nina Landon*



*Bristol Historical Society — June 19, 1980 meeting in Society Headquarters — basement of Holley Hall*

*Front row: Dorothy Purinton Trudo; Ruth Lathrop; Florence Cragen; Jessie Orvis; Adaire McKean; Joan Frenzel*

*Second Row: Charles Forte; Charlotte Forte; Prudence Tomasi; Anna Gladding; Sylvia Kirby; Beverly Boss; Diane Heffernan*

*Third row: Winfred Trudo; Sylvia Norton; William Kilbourn; Elizabeth Hise; Marion McKeon; Dorothy Lawrence Bosworth; Miriam Burke; Marion Liberty; Georgia Jimmo; Lawson Hammond; Helen Lathrop; Arlene Hammond*

*Back row: Lottie Follansbee; John Guinan; John Hise; Howard Gladding; Lawrence Lathrop, Sr.*



# Bristol Rescue Squad

Previous to the mid-1940's, Middlebury and Vergennes provided ambulance service to the towns of Bristol, Lincoln, Starksboro, Monkton, and New Haven. Dr. Harry Roller of Bristol did supply ambulance care to his own patients. He used an old Nash car and put the stretcher with patient through the trunk into the back seat. Dr. Roller and Gordon Brown felt there was a need to have an ambulance service in Bristol. In March 1946, Gordon Brown with the assistance of his part-time help, started his ambulance service. At that time, first aid courses were not required although Mr. Brown did have some ambulance and first aid training. The equipment that was used was oxygen, a stretcher, splints, and a 1939 LaSalle vehicle used for both ambulance and hearse service. With this, Mr. Brown took over ambulance service for Bristol, Lincoln, Starksboro, Monkton, and New Haven. After being on call seven days a week, twenty-four hours a day, and with insurance companies requiring that a first aid course be taken, Mr. Brown realized an organization had to be formed. With the help of Bernard Valentine, an idea became a reality. In 1970, the first signs of a rescue squad became visible. Interested and concerned individuals enrolled in a course in Burlington. These people worked with Gordon Brown in his home learning the use of the equipment that was available. Mr. Brown gave the newly formed rescue squad its first ambulance, a 1964 Cadillac, along with the equipment he had.

The first annual meeting of the Bristol Rescue Squad was held on September 7, 1970. In nine months, the Squad had come a long way. There were twenty-five members. In 1971, many important steps were taken. A dispatch system was set up with the telephone company and a 1970 Cadillac was purchased as a second ambulance for \$9,500. A parcel of land was purchased on Fitch Avenue from Alice Paine for the purpose of building a two-bay garage. As the application for federal matching funds was denied, the members of the Squad had some difficult decisions to make. With the



*Bristol Rescue Squad:*  
Kneeling: Lorraine Wry, Vice President; Norene Swanson; Deborah Bouvier; Helen Layn; Nancy Pechie; Mary Cobb; Sheila Henderson; Esther Valentine  
Standing: Bernard Valentine; Patricia Hier, Secretary; Richard Cote (back); Anthony Salvatore; Lottie Follansbee, Clerk-Treasurer; Richard Scott-Smith (back); Susan Scott-Smith (back); William James (back); David Cobb; Elissa Cobb; Edwin Hilbert, Jr.; Judith Hilbert

help and generosity of the people in Bristol and the surrounding towns, members of the Squad, Mount Abraham Union High School students and instructors, the garage was built. From this point on, the Rescue Squad has continued to grow. The Rescue Squad today has become an even more professional and efficient squad. The Squad is closely associated with the First Response Squads of Starksboro, Monkton, and Lincoln which play an important role in providing good patient care immediately.

The training in the Squad ranges from Advanced First Aid to Emergency Medical Technician to I.V. certification. The Squad transports to Porter Medical Center, Middlebury; Fanny Allen Hospital, Winooski; and both units of the Medical Center Hospital of Vermont in Burlington.

The current officers are: President, George Shortsleeve; Vice President, Lorraine Wry; Secretary, Patricia Hier; Clerk-Treasurer, Lottie Follansbee; Trustee, Deborah Bouvier.

As of January 1980, there were thirty-one members.

Material compiled from the Bristol Rescue Squad 1979 Annual Report.

## 4-H Club

4-H clubs for boys and girls have been in existence in Bristol on and off for many years under the leadership of various persons. The most recent group was formed in September 1972 when Mrs. Elsie Purinton and seven girls chartered the Bristol Sew and Grow Club. For the next five years, the club grew in numbers and interests under Mrs. Purinton. In 1977, Mrs. Diane Heffernan assumed leadership and today the club is actively pursuing interests in needlecrafts, weaving, woodworking, ceramics, and cooking.

Mrs. Heffernan is assisted by Mrs. Susan Buonincontro, co-leader, and Dorothy Heffernan, teen leader. Many mothers serve as project leaders including Mrs. Denise Cousino, Mrs. Sheila Henderson, Mrs. Ellen Leone,



and Mrs. Hildgund Shepherd. The twenty members participate in competitions on a county-wide level in the areas of clothing, foods, and crafts.

The 4-H programs are co-operatively developed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the University of Vermont, and the County Extension Service Advisory Boards. The 4-H clubs aim to provide positive experiences for all participants and emphasize the human worth and personal dignity of every member.

Information compiled by Dorothy Purinton Trudo, Susan Buonincontro, and Diane Hefferman.

## Girl Scouts

Girl Scouting in Bristol was revived in 1978 because of a need for the girls in our community to belong to an organization that helps girls learn and practice decision-making skills, gain self-confidence, meet new people, learn new things, and experience new activities. Presently there are approximately eighty-five girls (grades 1-6) participating in Scouting and ten adult volunteer leaders. Mrs. Carol K. Short is the Girl Scout Service Unit Coordinator for Bristol.

Former Coordinators for the Bristol area scouts include Mrs. Betty Maher, Mrs. Mary Sullivan, Mrs. Louise Acker, Mrs. Rosemary Bryden, Mrs. Natalie Peters, and others.

During 1968-74, seven troops were active involving over eighty girls. At least fourteen adult leaders volunteered their time to work with these girls. In the spring of 1974, the Cadette Troop under the leadership of Mrs. Louise Acker and Mrs. Jeannette Diette earned enough money to have twenty-six girls travel by bus to Rockwood Girl Scout Center outside of Washington, D.C., for a five-day stay. There was also day camping at Elephant Mountain during these years.

In the mid-1960's, the Girl Scouts were involved in overnight camping, visiting with the elderly, and other service projects. Throughout its history, Girl Scouting in Bristol has continued to help girls find and develop their unique talents, gifts, and sense of personal worth.

## Grange

The first Grange in Bristol was No. 173 organized in 1875 and called Bristol Valley Grange. After that group disbanded, No. 394 called Bristol Grange was organized in December of 1907. They held their first meetings in the Odd Fellows Hall but purchased their own hall on Garfield Street. The Bristol Grange disbanded in 1922 and the hall was sold to Esdram Duclos.

The most recent grange, No. 543, took on the name of the original group, the Bristol Valley Grange. It was organized in June 1941. They met first in the Gaige-Moor Community House, then in the Bristol Flats School, then they rented again from the Odd Fellows. Later they bought back the Grange Hall from the Duclos family. The original officers of Grange No. 543 were: Master, James Burpee; Lecturer, Myrtle Lowell; and Secretary, Myra Dike. The Grange was a fraternal organization. The initiation ceremonies exemplified the importance and beauty of the family, home, community, and agriculture. In the late 1960's, the Bristol Valley Grange No. 543 disbanded. George Sherman served as its last Master. The former Grange Hall on Garfield Street was sold to John Coffey in September 1971 and is being used for apartments currently.

## Green Mountain Senior Citizens

In the late 1960's, a group of women in a Home Demonstration club discussed the possibility of a senior citizens' group. Dr. Dewees Brown also thought that such a group in town would benefit the older citizens. He, Eleta (Sammy) Scribner, and Leona Thompson of the County Extension Service, met with others to organize and name the Green Mountain Senior Citizens. The membership included residents of the five towns, Bristol, Starksboro, Monkton, Lincoln, and New Haven. Wayne Fuller was elected the first president. They first met in the Advent Church, then the Baptist Church, and now meet in the American Legion Hall. Currently there are ninety-six members on the roll. At present Robert Clark Stetson is Presi-

dent; Albert Coleman, First Vice President; Inez Hubbell, Second Vice President; Jessie Thomas, Treasurer; and Myra Stetson, Secretary. Although originally backed by the state and federal government, the group is now self-supporting carrying on fund-raising projects.

The group meets for the business meeting the first Thursday of the month at one o'clock in the American Legion Hall. The third Thursday of the month is usually a dinner meeting at Mount Abraham Union High School followed by a program, a picnic, or an occasional bus day trip. The goals of the group are simple — friendship plus an interest in the current life of the town. Any person retired and desirous of joining is welcome.

Written by Myra D. Stetson.

## Homemaker Clubs

The Bristol Home Demonstration Club was formed in 1940. Monthly meetings were held over the years until 1960 at which time the organization was divided into two groups — Bristol Afternoon Homemakers and Bristol Evening Homemakers. Both are active today. As of July 1, 1979, the Afternoon Homemakers had eighteen members and Bristol Evening, twenty-four. Currently there are twenty-three "Homemaker" clubs (as they are now referred to) in Addison County with a total membership of four-hundred-sixty-one.

The purpose of the organization is to extend to homemakers the opportunity under trained leadership to study homemaking and community problems, increase their skills, and add to their information. With this new knowledge, they can apply the contributions of science and art to their chosen profession, "Homemaking," and may more effectively contribute to the well-being of their communities. This educational program is carried out under the direction of the Cooperative Extension Service of the University of Vermont.

## I.O.O.F.

Bristol Lodge No. 36 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows was



instituted at Bristol, Vermont, July 8, 1898. There were twenty-six charter members. Membership quickly increased to one-hundred-forty-five. Bristol lodge members have always had a true community spirit, working always for the betterment of the community, sponsoring and lending whatever help possible to other local activities. The Odd Fellows had their own meeting hall located on the top floor of the Hatch Building. They purchased the hall December 15, 1924, from R. F. Hatch.

In the early 1900's, an Encampment branch was instituted. In 1916, a Canton branch was formed in Bristol. Both Encampment and Canton surrendered their charters, however, and remaining members joined groups in Vergennes, Middlebury, or Burlington. On June 6, 1963, the Bristol Odd Fellows disbanded.

### Jaycees

The Greater Bristol Jaycees chartered in 1961 with Walter Hoag as its first President.

To qualify for membership, the men had to be between the ages of eighteen and thirty-five. Members of the Vergennes Jaycees came to Bristol and played an important part in forming an active group of thirty-five interested men.

The Jaycee motto is "Service to Others." They involved themselves in many projects, including "Toys for Tots," food baskets, and Little League. They were helpful in giving the Union District #28 Planning Board a boost by helping with publicity for the proposed new union high school, rides to the polls, and door-to-door selling of the new school, believing it to be in the best interests of the community.

"Young men in action" best describes the Bristol Jaycees during the 1960's. Gradually, the interest began to decrease; and in 1970, the chapter disbanded.

Written by George Rockwood.

### Lions Club

With Donald McCormick, Jr., as their first President, the Bristol Lions Club chartered on February 26, 1976.

It was a time when Bristol was in need of a club of active, younger men, their motto being "We Serve."

The Vergennes Lions were instrumental in bringing together a group of interested persons in 1975, the result was the chartering of the Bristol club in 1976.

The club is recognized for its involvement in the sight van, eye glasses, and hearing aids. Also, the Lions help with the Babe Ruth League, Little League, transportation for the elderly, Memory Tree, shoveling snow for the elderly, and many service functions which are only offered once.

We hope that history will record us as a club that is a "mover of people" within our community. Bristol Lions membership at the present time is thirty-eight members. The 1979-80 officers are: President, George Rockwood; Secretary, Peter Perlee; Treasurer, William Wisell; First Vice President, Sandy Wilson; Second Vice President, Jay Vrooman; and Third Vice President, David Marsters.

Written by George Rockwood.

### Masons

Libanus Lodge No. 71 F. & A. M. was consecrated December 13, 1826, by the Grand Lodge of the State of

Vermont. According to Grand Lodge proceedings, Libanus Lodge No. 71 was active in their records for the years 1827 through 1830 and again in 1833. The last meeting of Libanus Lodge No. 71 was held September 8, 1829. Due to the Anti-Masonic Era, the Lodge surrendered its Charter, as did many other Lodges at that time.

In September 1858, several of the Freemasons of Bristol met and appointed H. Munsill to secure a dispensation under which they might meet until the next meeting of the Grand Lodge of Vermont. The dispensation was secured and the first meeting was held October 11, 1858. The Charter was granted January 13, 1859, by the Grand Lodge in session. On February 14, 1859, Libanus Lodge No. 47 was instituted. In the year ending December 27, 1859, an all-time record of ninety-five degrees were worked.

The Masons met in several places on Main Street, two of which were destroyed by fire. In August, 1948, Libanus Lodge bought the Congregational Church at the corner of North and Elm Streets for their lodge rooms where they still meet today.

The Masonic Order is a charitable and fraternal order. Millions of dollars are spent yearly for hospitals, homes for the aged, widows, and orphans.



*Masonic Temple — corner of Elm and North Streets*



The Masonic Order accepts members from all Christian faiths.

The membership of Libanus Lodge at this writing is one-hundred-forty members. The Lodge meets on the first Monday of each month.

The 1979-80 officers are as follows: Worshipful Master, William Hanson; Senior Warden, Theodore Pilon; Junior Warden, Conrad Stewart; Treasurer, Charles Lathrop; Secretary, Barent Vrooman; Senior Deacon, James Densman; Junior Deacon, Kenneth Wheeling; Senior Steward, Arthur Prime; Junior Steward, David Perry; Chaplain, Rodney Bryant; Marshall, Warner Pierce; Tyler, Burton Bicknell.

Written by Charles A. Hanson.

### **Mount Abe Snow Sports**

James Cyr and Robert Welch were instrumental in getting the Mount Abe Snow Sports, Inc., started in the fall of 1972. The group's goals are to provide trails and laws for the safe enjoyment of snowmobiling. This has been a joint effort of landowners and snowmobilers alike. The group also has social and fund-raising activities and has donated to the local rescue squad. The Mount Abe Snow Sports is a member of the Vermont Association of Snow Travelers which in turn is associated with the national organization. Current local officers are: President, Roger Stowe; Vice President, Conrad Stewart; and Secretary-Treasurer, Eleanor Adams. There are approximately forty active members.

Information from Eleanor Adams.

### **Onawa Rebekah Lodge**

A charter was granted Onawa Rebekah Lodge No. 43 on October 30, 1900. Charter members were: R. F. Hatch, Mrs. Frances Hatch, F. T. Briggs, Mrs. Mable Briggs, Carrie E. Patterson, Bertha E. Stewart, P. J. Bristol, Mrs. P. J. Bristol, N. D. Bissonett, and E. N. Dike. Mrs. Hatch was unanimously elected Noble Grand. Any female eighteen years of age of good moral character was eligible to become a member. Members were

devoted to visiting and caring for the sick and teachings were based on the Holy Bible. Also, many donations were made to charitable organizations.

The Degree of Chivalry was conferred on several members as a result of their work and commitment to their Lodge and to their community. A number of members received appointments to the Rebekah Assembly of the State of Vermont to serve in various offices. Mrs. Erma Grant was elected State President of the Rebekah Assembly and served from May 1969 to May 1970.

From May 5, 1951, through April 1961, there was a Tri Theta Rho Girls Club affiliated with the Onawa Rebekah Lodge. Its purposes included teaching unselfishness and patriotism, encouraging mental and physical development, and teaching that obedience to the law is necessary to the preservation of government and to the protection of home and country.

The Onawa Rebekah Lodge No. 43 originally met in the Odd Fellows meeting hall on the third floor of the Hatch Building on Main Street. After the Odd Fellows surrendered their charter in June 1963, the Rebekahs continued to meet in the Hatch Building for a short time. In September 1963, the group started renting meeting space at the Masonic Temple on Elm Street and continued their charitable work from that location.

Due to the lack of new members and financial concerns, the Rebekahs voted in September 1978 to surrender their charter. The last regular officers at that time were: Noble Grand, Alice Dragon; Past Noble Grand, Florence Brown; Vice Grand, Gladys Sturgeon; Secretary, Mildred Lee; Treasurer, Erma Grant; Chaplain, Ebba Nelson; Warden, Gertrude Lathrop; Conductor, Ruth Lathrop; Color Bearer, Helen Sherman; Inside Guardian, Daisy Grant; Right Supporter of the Noble Grand, Viola Morrison; Left Supporter of the Noble Grand, Minnie Roscoe; Right Supporter of the Vice Grand, Helen Smith; Left Supporter of the Vice Grand, Dolores Comstock; and Musician, Lottie Follansbee.

Information researched by Lottie Follansbee.

### **Order of Eastern Star**

Libanus Chapter No. 47 Order of Eastern Star was installed in May of 1901. Currently there are ninety-six members in the Bristol chapter.

Any wife, mother, daughter, or sister of a Master Mason may join this organization, devoted to the principles of brotherly love. The chapter contributes annually to the General Grand Chapter of Vermont Eastern Star projects which have been the Heart Fund, Cancer Fund, and Religious Training Scholarship Fund. This chapter also contributes annually to the Eastern Star Home for the Aged in Randolph, Vermont. Eastern Star meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at the Masonic Temple on Elm Street, except during January and February. Current elected officers are: Worthy Matron, Vivian Hutchins; Worthy Patron, Theodore Pilon; Assoc. Matron, Helen Vrooman; Assoc. Patron, Martyn Hutchins; Secretary, Charlotte Nelson; and Treasurer, Barbara Stowe.

Written by Charlotte Nelson.

## Rotary Club

The Bristol Vermont Rotary Club, Inc., was organized on March 17, 1951, under the sponsorship of the Middlebury Vermont Rotary Club, with twenty-five charter members. Among them were Gordon Brown, Stan Bryden, and Fred Jackman, who are still active members, and Jim Tomasi who is an Honorary Member of the club. Membership in the club has remained rather stable since its inception, between twenty-five and thirty members. Present officers are: President, Larry Gile; Vice President, Fred Baser; Secretary, Bill Paine; and Treasurer, Jack Anderson.

While the Bristol Vermont Rotary Club is a local autonomous club, it is part of the world-wide organization of Rotary International which celebrated its seventy-fifth anniversary in 1979. The Bristol club's goals are closely related to those of Rotary International. Those goals are the development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service; high ethical standards in business and professions; the ideal of service by every Rotarian in his personal, business, and community life; and the advancement of international understanding and peace through the uniting of business and professional men in the ideal of service.

The byword with all Rotarians is "Service above Self." Evidence of this motto on the local level takes shape in many community projects. These projects are usually of a short-term nature which can be completed within a few days up to a year, such as planting of shrubs and trees around Holley Hall or the Bicycle Safety Rodeo. There are

some on-going projects which the Bristol Vermont Rotary Club sponsors on a continuous basis. Among these projects are the maintenance of the Lord's Prayer Rock and the surrounding area; replacement of shade trees in the Village; high school student scholarships; and international cultural exchanges.

The Bristol Vermont Rotary Club has been of service to the Bristol community for almost thirty years and looks forward to many more years of quietly doing what needs to be done.

Written by Larry Diette.

## Salvation Army

The Salvation Army is celebrating its one-hundredth anniversary of service in the United States in 1980. Bristol can be proud of having an active Local Service Unit here for well past a quarter of a century. This unit serves the five-town area of Bristol, Lincoln, Starksboro, Monkton, and New Haven. A representative from each town serves on the committee.

In early 1980, Bristol service unit members were honored for their many years of service. Leonard Burt, Chairman, has served the unit for twenty-eight years; Jesse Hanson, Treasurer, and Bernice Coddington, Welfare Secretary, have each served twenty-two years; and Rev. Jonathan Bursey has served thirty-six years, including participation in Bristol as well as in other towns.

The local unit is proud of its many services to the community and aims to help those in need.

Information compiled by Leonard Burt.

## The Committee

In early 1973, a group of alumni and students of Mount Abraham Union High School formed The Committee and presented the play "Wuthering Heights" to purchase materials for the high school's library and the drama department. The youthful community-oriented theater group then formed a non-profit organization. The Committee uses the guiding principle that all persons in a production bear responsibility for the finished product equally. The group has produced over twenty productions in the 1973-79 period without an overall director; thus allowing the group to benefit from the ideas of all its members without stifling creative thought, especially of younger or newer participants.

The Committee takes its non-profit status literally, keeping admission prices low as a gift to the community and making theater affordable to families. Proceeds have been donated to charities, local and national, and for each play fund-raising begins anew. Shows presented include Agatha Christie mysteries; Edward Albee offerings; Miracle Plays; dramas including "Our American Cousin" and "Diary of Anne Frank;" and the musicals "Legend of Sleepy Hollow," "Brigadoon," and "Godspell." In addition, in 1976 the group staged a commendable Bristol Bicentennial Pageant.



## Outlook Club

On June 19, 1900, eleven women met and organized a club known as the Literary Club. Soon after this, a constitution was adopted and the club name was changed to the Outlook Club. Charter members of the club were Mrs. Lillian Corey Boynton, Mrs. Lena Roseman Denio, Mrs. Ellen Beach Eastman, Mrs. Jennie Cardell Norton, Mrs. Joel Page, Miss Rosina Parmelee, Mrs. Carrie Patterson Partch, Mrs. Elizabeth Rider, Mrs. Ruth Norton Roberts, Mrs. Seraph Prime Sneden, Miss Kate I. Stewart, Mrs. Jennie Everest Wilson, and Mrs. Martha Parmelee Young. The first President was Mrs. Elizabeth Rider.

The purpose of the group was and is "to promote general culture, an intelligent interest in the leading questions of the day — national and inter-

national — and community improvement." For several years, the club's activities were mostly cultural and social, and a regular course of reading was followed. In 1912, the club joined the Vermont Federation of Women's Clubs and broadened and increased its activities. In 1936, the club joined the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

In the past, there have been several accomplishments of which the club is very proud. In August 1921, the club sponsored a community pageant involving over one-hundred-fifty people portraying the history of Bristol. The pageant was staged on the grounds of "The Maples," the present home of Miss Vera Cline on Hewitt Road. Another project was the Chautauqua Courses which several residents remember the Outlook Club helped to

sponsor. These week-long courses included children's programs, adult lectures, and musical presentations for all the residents of the area. In 1940, the Outlook Club published its first edition of the *History of Bristol, Vermont 1761-1940*. A second edition was published in 1959. In 1941, when a Vermont Sesqui-Centennial Celebration (1791-1941) was held in Bristol, the Outlook Club sponsored a pageant-play depicting four episodes of Vermont history. In September 1978, a Bristol Historical Buildings Tour was sponsored by the Outlook Club and the Bristol Historical Society. Around the Town Park, the First Baptist Church, the Bosworth Homestead at 1 Park Place, the Tomasi Home at 1 North Street, and Holley Hall were shown. Also the Maloney Home at 31 Pleasant Street, the Kilbourn Home at 58 North

### *Outlook Club — 1979*

*Seated: Renia C. Partridge; Anna Gladding; Lottie Follansbee; Helen Bristol*

*Standing: Kathleen Brooks; Barbara Kennedy; Margaret Shadrick; Frances Drummond; Wilma Brown*





Street, and the Masonic Temple were shown. The hostesses appeared in early 1900's apparel.

Presently the Outlook Club's emphasis is on community projects such as this third edition of the *History of Bristol, Vermont* which is basically a twenty-year update of the 1959 edition. The club participates in Red Cross blood drawings, nursing home projects, and organizes the filling of the flower boxes for the beautification of Main Street. Donations have been made to the Girl Scouts, the Halloween

Committee, the Reading is Fundamental program, Girls State scholarships, Campbell Soup Label Drive, the Lawrence Memorial Library book collection, and other community projects.

In 1980, the club was incorporated and is now known as Outlook Club of Bristol, Vermont. There are now thirty-four members. The 1979-80 officers are: Mrs. Edwin A. Hilbert, Jr., President; Ms. Dorothy Lyon, First Vice President; Mrs. Bonnie Gridley, Second Vice President; Mrs. Lucy Pellegrini, Corresponding Secretary;

Mrs. Myron Frenzel, Recording Secretary; and Mrs. Claire Lathrop, Treasurer. Several members have participated in the club for thirty years or more: Mrs. Lawrence Bristol, Mrs. Warren Brooks, Mrs. Gordon Brown, Mrs. Harold Follansbee, Mrs. Howard Gladding, Mrs. Henry Gurley, and Mrs. John Kennedy. The club meets the first Wednesday of each month September through June at club members' homes. Club membership is open to all women who are concerned with service to the Bristol community.



*Outlook Club — 1979*

Seated on floor: Marcia Dominick; Sandra Connolly; Lorraine Tucker; Sheila Smith  
 Seated: Helen Smith; Ruth Lathrop; Myra Stetson; Dori Lyon; Debi Paterson; Fay-Bond  
 Hinrichs; Judith Hilbert; Lillian Lambertson  
 Standing: Jane Campbell; June Olson; Prudence Tomasi; Joan Frenzel; Barbara Maloney;  
 Marion Jette; Anita Cirillo; Bonnie Gridley  
 (members missing from group photographs — Beth Butler; Lorraine Emmons; Evangelyn  
 Johnson; Lucy Pellegrini)



## XVIII Recreation and Entertainment

### Baseball

#### *Town Baseball*

Baseball formed an integral part of the recreational life of Bristol after the close of the Civil War. During the 1870's, nine players known as the Mountaineers played thrilling games. For seven years they were undefeated and won the state championship one year by defeating the Rustlers, a team of picked players from clubs throughout Vermont. In the 1890's, a semi-professional team called the Bristols, rocketed to fame under the management of Hoyt Landon.

In the late 1920's, the town baseball team was still making a name for itself playing other league teams. During the years 1933 and 1934, probably the best town team ever to play was keeping the townspeople cheering. Ralph Shadrick was the manager of this team.

During the war years, 1942 to 1945, the town team stopped playing because so many men were away defending their country. By the end of 1945, however, baseball started up again on a small scale as the men finished up their service duty. Between 1946 and 1955, probably the best baseball years in recent history were enjoyed in Bristol. Players during this time include: Carl (Buzzy) Aldrich, Jr., James Bouvier, Laurence (Toot) Bouvier, Esdrus (Peanut) Fillion, Bill Gray, Rob Hasseltine, Charles Lafley, Ken Lafley, Claire Lathrop, Leonard (Rosie) Levarn, Sam McKinnon, Ridley Norton, Frank Palmer, Graham Palmer, Leonard (Flip) Roscoe, Jack Selden, Warner Shadrick, Pete Shedrick, John Tyler, and Ken Wainwright. By the late 1950's, the pendulum had swung again and baseball in Bristol came to an end as the young

men pursued other forms of recreation.

There have been five baseball fields in Bristol over the years. The first field, used by the Mountaineers, was our Village Park which at that time was used chiefly as grazing ground. The second ball field, where the Bristols played, was Riverside Park on the south side of the New Haven River across from the Basin. This area was often flooded by the river and is now overgrown with trees. The third field was a plot of land behind the old Bristol Inn. The fourth diamond was laid out on an area of land known as Stewart pasture land or "the plains" which was the site of the former airport and where presently the union high school sits. This field was used in the early 1920's. The fifth and current field for baseball and softball is the Recreation Club field which was first used in 1924.

Bristol has always been known as a "good baseball town." This reflects on the excellent teams the town produced with purely local talent. Often their competition hired players from several towns to compete. Being a "good baseball town" also reflects on the spectator support they received and the sponsor support when uniforms or equipment were needed. Rutherford (Hap) Smith, who served as a bat boy in the late 1920's, as a player and manager through the mid-fifties, is quoted as saying the town team "was not afraid to take on the best." They played everyone and anyone and brought honor to the baseball town of Bristol.

#### *High School Baseball*

In the spring of 1919 or 1920, a memorable baseball game was played between Bristol High School and Richmond High School. The game was played on the Stewart pasture land mentioned earlier. The field was very rough and the bases were burlap bags filled with stones. Rivalry between the



*Baseball:*

*Bristol Town Team — 1951 — won sixteen straight victories including playoffs*

*Front row: Charles Tyler, scorekeeper; Warner Shadrick; Peanut Fillion; Pete Shedrick; James Bouvier; Hap Smith; Frank Lengyel; Robert Palmer, bat boy*

*Back row: Claire Lathrop; Jack Leonard; Flip Roscoe; William Gray; Harvey Farr; Sonny Trombley*



teams was very intense as they were so evenly matched.

Ramie C. Martin, a local businessman, was the umpire. John L. Selden, principal of Bristol High School, was the local coach; and Jack Berry, a former semi-professional ball player was the Richmond coach. The line-up of the Bristol team included Hilton Bicknell, Ralph Blodgett, Earl Devold, Erwin Hasseltine, Harley Holcomb, Wayne Holcomb, George Hathorne, Clifford Kent, and Lee Landon. Harley (Red) Holcomb was the Bristol pitcher.

Team member Lee Landon has written up how the game progressed. "The game started after school classes. There were very few in attendance, except for students and a few Village people. At the end of nine innings of play, the score was tied two to two. As the game continued and word got around the Village, a much larger crowd of people gathered. No score was made after the ninth inning. At the end of seventeen innings, the game was called because of darkness." The Richmond pitcher and Harley Holcomb pitched the entire seventeen innings. Sam McKinnon adds that the two were pitching "as good as when they had started!" Once again the baseball fans of Bristol were treated to an unforgettable game.

Information compiled from the *History of Bristol, Vermont*, First and Second Editions, Leland Landon, Christine Levarn, Sam McKinnon, and R. W. Smith.

## Bowling

Bowling in Bristol dates back to approximately 1925 when bowling was available on the second floor of the so-called Estey Building. This is the present location of the Bristol Trading Post. Candle pins were used at this bowling alley.

In the 1930's and early 1940's, duckpin bowling was available in the basement of the Hatch Block on Main Street.

In 1947, Anthony Thomas constructed the building which stands at the far end of the present Grand Union parking lot where The Village Gate is located. In 1955, Mr. Thomas built

and ran six duckpin lanes on the bottom floor of the building. There was a restaurant upstairs run by his wife, Madine Thomas. Duckpins were enjoyed there for ten years under Mr. Thomas' ownership.

The building was then sold by Mr. Thomas to a man from out of state; bought back by Mr. Thomas; resold to Ralph Mable; bought back again by Mr. Thomas; and then in 1974, Christopher and Louise Acker bought the building.

In February of 1974, the Ackers opened "Bristol Lanes" for duckpin bowling. By the fall, they were running league bowling every night on six alleys. Teen bowling was available Saturday mornings and after school. The only other duckpin bowling lanes in Vermont were in Burlington. Most unique for today was that the lanes did not feature automatic pinsetters, but both boys and girls set up the pins manually.

There was also a game room at Bristol Lanes. There were three pool tables, a shuffleboard court, and two ping-pong tables. The Ackers sponsored a Ping-Pong Tournament in 1975. Danny Dion, Mike Ladue, Ross Vaughn, and Bruce Siter played doubles ping-pong for forty-eight straight hours breaking the Guinness record. Unfortunately, others had broken the record and played longer, so the Bristol foursome did not get their names published.

In June 1978, the Ackers sold the bowling alley building to Nicholas Liberio. It is owned by him currently, but the alleys are not being used. Bowling has been a sport enjoyed by Bristol residents for many years.

## Bristol Country Club

Interest in a golf course in Bristol was felt by residents here as well as tourists writing for recreation information. In 1929, a small group of people organized for the purpose of securing a golf course and club house. In July 1929, the Bristol Country Club was incorporated with Dr. G. F. Edmunds as President. In May 1929, the Verne Hurlburt farm at the intersection of North Street and Burpee Road was

purchased for the sum of \$6,500. Original stockholders included Clement C. Smith, Wiley F. Danforth, Laurence E. McShane, John A. Kilbourn, and Clement A. Burnham. In the spring of 1930, a nine-hole golf course was opened to the public. The club house was formally opened October 1, 1930.

For approximately a decade, the country club proved to be an important asset to the Bristol community. Ernest W. Holmes provided much leadership at the country club by handling the greens fees, keeping the financial records, and supervising many golf tournaments. In 1941, men's membership fees were fifteen dollars.

In the early years, the course's twenty-five acres were maintained by groundskeeper William LaBombard. The other one-hundred-thirty-four acres were used as a woodlot, pasture land, and hay acreage. In 1931, Roger Lattrell was hired as an additional groundskeeper. To mow the extensive acreage, a Model T car was made over into a tractor that pulled three mowers with a breadth of nine feet. The iron wheels of the tractor ran off the hubs of the Model T.

Around 1933, the golf course experienced a very dry summer. Groundskeeper Roger Lattrell, with the help of Carl Smith, laid pipe for a watering system. The pipe ran from a clear spring located on the property to all nine greens and to the club house. Water was pumped by a windmill, later by a gasoline pump, and eventually by an electric pump. There was a thousand gallon surplus water tank.

By the early forties, the country club was experiencing financial difficulties due to the cost of maintaining the course and house. The Bristol Country Club was closed in the fall of 1941. Wiley Danforth held the mortgage on the property.

In October 1944, Felix Cousino purchased the entire parcel of land for his family residence and for farming. In August 1955, he sold most of the acreage to his son, Paul Cousino, but retained the house and two acres. In November 1968, Paul and Alice Cousino sold to Abraham and Margaret Mierop who are currently



farming the land. In September 1977, Felix Cousino sold the house and two acres to Ralph and Beverly Boss, who own it presently.

### **Bristol Recreation Club**

The Bristol Recreation Club, Inc., was organized in June of 1922 by thirty-six members. Initiated by Arthur Gove, the original group raised \$750 to purchase approximately thirteen acres of land known today as the Recreation Field. The Club's Articles of Association state its purposes as "establishing, equipping, and maintaining in the Town of Bristol, a recreation park or playground for the entertainment, amusement, education, and training for the people of Bristol."

In 1923, work was begun on the field under the direction of V. I. Patnode, chairman of the Grounds Committee, to make a baseball diamond and lay out two tennis courts. R. C. Martin, Ralph Shadrick, B. W. Estey, and Ford Thomas are among the charter members of the club who deserve credit for the progress. In 1924, the baseball diamond and two tennis courts were completed and the Recreation Club baseball team was formed. In 1925, the first July Fourth celebration was held at the field. Water was piped to the field and electricity supplied in 1935. Under the direction of Clarence Lathrop, the first grandstand was built. This original grandstand was destroyed by high wind and replaced by the present one.

During the 1940's, activities at the field became almost non-existent because so many young men were away in the service. However, through the efforts of Ralph Shadrick and others, a small group of club members persisted.

During 1950-55, Foster Whitcomb organized Little League and Babe Ruth League activities. In 1954, the first annual Bristol Country A-Fair was sponsored jointly by the Recreation Club and Bristol Post #19 American Legion. In 1968, night lighting of the field was added. By 1969, the Bristol Softball League was formed. In 1979, the Club successfully hosted the twenty-two team Vermont State Class "A" Softball Tournament.

Improvements to the field in 1978 include two new fenced tennis courts and a lighted skating rink completed as a cooperative effort of the Town and the Recreation Club. In 1979, a new event called the Bristolthon was jointly sponsored by the Recreation Club, the Chamber of Commerce, and Mt. Abraham Boosters. This was a foot race which attracted a field of over one-hundred runners from many states and was a great success. Plans are to try to make this an annual event.

The Club is maintained by membership dues and donations from the Town and Village. The Club belongs to the people of Bristol and depends on many generous volunteers to keep the many activities going. The current officers of the Recreation Club are: President, David Rochefort; Vice President, Leonard Burt; Secretary, Marion Jette; Treasurer, Merry Vuley; Trustees: Rick Smith, Charles Tyler, and Lawson Hammond.

### **Bristol Country A-Fair**

The first fair was held July 3-5, 1954, with competitive games, mid-way, ball games, band performances, and fireworks. It was sponsored by the Bristol Recreation Club and American Legion Post #19. Leonard Burt and William Hier chaired the first event.

The event received its official title in 1957 when the idea of Mrs. Faire Edwards was chosen. She suggested the name Bristol Country A-Fair, stating that many people had affairs "so let's be different and have an A-Fair."

Over the years, many things were added to the A-Fair. Among them were a parade with floats, horribles, marching units, and varied entertainment.

In 1978, Leonard Burt served his twenty-fifth year as A-Fair coordinator. He was honored with well-deserved thanks from the Recreation Club, the Town, and the Rotary Club. The chairmen and co-chairmen over the years include William Hier, George Corkins, George Smith, Ronald LaRose, and most recently David Rochefort. Robert D'Avignon, with the assistance of his family and friends, built the bingo hall and concession shack. For fifteen years, Ralph Heath

ran the concession rides. Presently the fair is sponsored solely by the Recreation Club. In 1980, the Bristol Country A-Fair, always held over the Fourth of July week, will celebrate its twenty-seventh year.

Information partially compiled by Leonard Burt.

### **Bristol Riding Club**

The Bristol Riding Club was organized January 7, 1955, under the leadership of Mrs. Juna Perlee with sixteen members. Several parents of children with horses at that time including Gordon Brown, Edward Burke, William Cardell, Roland Devino, Howard Gladding, Warren LeBoeuf, and James Tomasi helped with the formation of the club. The club was a part of 4-H for about twelve years. The goal of the Riding Club was to develop responsibility through horsemanship. Members learned about horse care and horse training and demonstrated their skills in horse shows, trail rides, and parades. Six members were honored by riding in the Eastern States 4-H Exposition in Massachusetts. Many former members have gone on to teach riding skills.

Before a ring was built, the students with horses and ponies met after school at the spot where the present ring is. The ring was built on Town land at the northeast corner of the recreation field on Liberty Street in the spring of 1956. Members themselves dug the post holes and parents put up the fence. They held their first all-junior horse show May 6, 1956. From that date through 1978, horse shows were held in the spring and fall. About fifty horses from Vermont and New York took part in each horse show. Through the money earned by these shows, the members were able to truck their horses to other shows. For many years, George Peet lent his truck and services as driver.

The club has not been organized formally since the end of 1978, but some casual sharing of horse knowledge continues at Juna Perlee's home on Liberty Street. Juna, herself, can often be seen on the streets of the



Village even now training horses; and dressed in complete riding habit she always participates in local parades.

Researched by Juna Perlee.

## Bristol Softball League

1979 marked the tenth anniversary of the Bristol Softball League. What began as a dream of a handful of dedicated Bristol Recreation Club members in 1967, and became a reality in 1969, has now grown into one of the finest softball leagues and facilities in the State of Vermont. Bristol was named by the Vermont State Softball Commissioner as host for the 1979 State Tournament. This alone is evidence of the quality of the league and the facility.

Probably the one man most responsible for the beginning of softball in Bristol was Jim Bouvier, a long-time Recreation Club member and former town team baseball player. He realized that nationwide, interest was shifting to softball as a community-oriented sport. Former outstanding baseball players are usually also star softball players, but Jim also saw that softball was a game where even the casual athletes, the "one evening a week" type of players, could compete and even improve their skills. Bristol has long been a "baseball town," and softball has filled that void for many enthusiastic fans, ex-baseball players, and eager newcomers.

Once the old baseball diamond was put in shape for softball and the lights installed, the Bristol Softball League was formed. The league handles all of its own business, money matters, and scheduling. A Board of Directors is elected each year to guide the league. Currently, Ron LaRose and Henry Caron are serving as league officers. Also, Ron LaRose worked with Jim Bouvier from the beginning in the organization and planning of the entire program.

At present, the league provides a healthy outlet and competition for nearly two-hundred ball players, and hours of entertainment for countless fans. Two-hundred-fifty games were played during the summer of '79.

Written by Connie LaRose.



*Bristol Riding Club — July 1957*

*Brenda Brown (Lathrop) on Mac, Carole Tudhope on Spunky, Juna Perlee on Regal, Gail Gove (Cournoyer) on Lady, Ruth Tomasi (Andersen) on Ritzi, Marie Burke (Page) on Cimie, Cheryl Hoffnagle (Kennedy) on Velvet, Flora Perlee (Benoit) on Beauty, Peter Tomasi on Lord Jim, Norman Booska on Delight*

## Colonial Theatre

Although moving pictures were shown occasionally in Holley Hall by an out-of-town exhibitor with portable equipment, the time seemed right for something more permanent. Therefore, in the year of 1915, a building was constructed by George S. Farr and W. H. Cardell on South Street between the then Gaudette Harness Shop building and the driveway in the rear of the Lathrop

Block. Because of the style of the facade, it was appropriately named the "Colonial."

From the time of its completion until the year 1930, silent moving pictures were shown on Wednesday and Saturday evenings by George S. Farr, proprietor, admission ten cents and twenty cents. Cardell had sold his interest in the business within the first year of its operation. Pianists accompanying silent pictures 1915-1930 were



*Colonial Theatre — showing "Mighty Joe Young" — South Street; present site of Brown-McClay Funeral Homes, Inc.*



Fern Shattuck (Wilson), Mrs. William (Gertrude) Browe, Randall Brown, Olive Smith (Eddy), John Sherwin, and Katherine Cushman.

From 1930-32, sound equipment was installed in Holley Hall and Ernest and John Sherwin showed talking pictures there. In 1932, the talking pictures were moved to the Colonial. The building was extensively remodeled by the new owners, John and Alma (Farr) Sherwin.

Renovations included a sound-proofed projection booth over an enlarged lobby; new stage and drapes; and acoustically decorated walls and ceiling. The original level floor was inclined and three-hundred permanent upholstered theatre chairs were installed.

For the next twenty-seven years the new Colonial Theatre, equipped with RCA sound, offered quality family entertainment with three program changes every week, each playing two days, with an admission price of ten cents for children, twenty cents for students, and forty cents for adults.

In December 1956, with television available and outdoor theatres becoming popular, the Colonial closed and the building remained unoccupied until it was sold to Gordon and Wilma Brown in 1961. The building is presently part of the Brown-McClay Funeral Homes, Inc.

Written by John S. Sherwin.

### Japanese Dance Garden

Harry Jimmo, a long-time resident of Bristol, got the idea of a dance pavilion while watching hardwood floors being laid in a neighbor's house and hearing someone remark that it would make a wonderful floor for dancing.

In the mid-1920's, Jimmo had an open-air pavilion constructed on land he owned at the intersection of West and Liberty Streets. The pavilion was attractively decorated with hanging Japanese lanterns and exposed beams entwined with flowers and greens. Jimmo named it the Japanese Dance Garden and popular orchestras of the area played music for round and square dancing. The pavilion im-

mediately earned its place in the recreational life of Bristol and gained the reputation of having the best dance floor in the state.

Subsequent owners were the Trudell family and later a Mr. Williams who continued operation of the dance hall and added roller skating. A tap room was built on the east side of the building to encourage year-round patronage. While this was successful in the summer months, it was quite uncomfortable in the frigid months of winter and was discontinued.

In the summer of 1939, Grover C. Langeway purchased the pavilion and under his successful management the Japanese Dance Garden was rejuvenated. For the next eight and one-half years, Saturday night dances (admission fifty cents and later seventy-five cents) and roller skating on weekdays flourished. During this time, as many as two-hundred-twenty-five pairs of skates were available for rental.

In 1947, Langeway discontinued his operation because of vandalism and the need for additional police supervision. The pavilion remained closed until it was sold in 1952 to James and Prudence Tomasi who converted it into a successful hardware business. The building is currently the location of Lyon Hardware and Building Supply owned by Denton Lyon who purchased it in 1977 from the Tomasis.

Written by John S. Sherwin.

### Ski Rope Tow

In the fall of 1959, the Rotary Club originated the idea of a small-scale ski area for Bristol. Land just across from the present Mountain Street School on Hogback Mountain was donated by Francis Kilbourn for this purpose. L. Stearns Gay, Jr., President of Rotary at the time, along with John Kennedy and James Tomasi, headed the committee to clear the land and install a seven-hundred-fifty foot rope tow. They were assisted by Stewart Schmidt, a physical education teacher at the high school, his students, and many community-spirited volunteers.

Two trails were laid out. A motor house and tow line posts were installed and a fifteen horsepower motor kept the rope moving. The area was opened during the 1959-60 winter for weekend and holiday skiing and was supervised by an attendant. Operation of the ski area was strictly non-profit. Fees of fifteen cents for half day and twenty-five cents for full day were charged to cover maintenance of the rope tow equipment. The ski area was run by the Rotary Club for three seasons until lack of volunteer help and lack of patronage made it impossible to keep the project going. In the spring of 1962, it was closed permanently. The equipment sat idle for two years; and then in 1964, it was sold to the recreation group in Lincoln to be used on their ski hill. While the Bristol ski area lasted, many local residents learned the technique and fun of skiing.

### Swim Teams

In the summer of 1969, David Comegys, the Physical Education Director at Mount Abraham Union High School, started an AAU Age Group (8-18) Competitive Swim Team. He laid the foundation for the future of competitive swimming in this area. He was the spark that trained and developed the best in everyone, as well as holding the team together. He practically singlehandedly ran the program, summer and winter, until he accepted another position in the Ausable, New York, area to develop swimming there.

When Mr. Comegys left, after approximately three years, the winter team was switched to NCAA competition with a varsity and junior varsity program which then swam mostly against New York teams. After approximately two years with NCAA, the winter team was disbanded because cost of travel and changes in New York rules and schedules made it impossible to compete.

The summer team has remained in AAU competition and swims against area teams that have outdoor pools. The 8-18 age group summer program is essentially under Mount Abraham auspices as part of its recreational program.

In the fall of 1975, the Addison County AAU Swim Team was formed by interested parents and faculty who were determined to see a swim program continue in the Bristol area year round for all age groups. Rosemary Bryden, Jeannette Diette, and Vivian Weston served as the first directors and James Campbell was and still is treasurer. They received great assistance from various committee chairmen and outstanding parents who supported this undertaking with their time and effort.

Excellent cooperation came from the Union High School #28 School Board, Principal John Connolly, and Mount Abraham Union High School staff members, especially Leonard Blaise, Beverly Mayer, David Royce,

and Peter Straub. Past coaches include Jeanne Cotter, Peter Straub, Clarke Thibault, Liz Ryan, Colleen Wedge, and students John Gordon, Lauren Diette, and Melody Hoff.

The AAU program was designed to give elementary through high school students the opportunity to improve swimming skills and compete in AAU sanctioned meets. Any hardworking swimmer, regardless of skill level, was made a member of the team. Members came from most Addison County towns. In the winter of 1979, the AAU team became known as the Addison Otters.

Currently the Addison Otters are under the leadership of Janet Cole of Ferrisburg, Kristin Hirsch of Weybridge, and Vivian Weston of Bristol.

The team has sixteen members who compete for over five months in dual and invitational meets. This past season one team member competed in the New England AAU Championships. The team is financed by swimmers' fees and fund raising.

Thanks to dedicated parents, coaches, and swimmers, the teams have continued on undaunted and the individuals involved have gained much. The pool at Mount Abraham Union High School has been a well-used asset to the Bristol area community, as well as an excellent part of the educational development.

Information compiled by Rosemary Bryden and Janet Cole.



## XIX Campgrounds

### Elephant Mountain Camping Area

The Elephant Mountain Camping Area, located on Route 116 five miles south of Bristol Village, is owned by Rolan and Rodna Farr. The original farm this camping area is situated on was settled by a Sumner family in 1803. For a time in the 1920-30's, the farm was known as the Bristol Poor Farm where the homeless and poor were housed in return for labor on the farm. Potatoes were evidently a main crop for the number of bushels harvested each year was written on the walls of the basement. The original brick house was destroyed by fire in 1956.

Rolan and Rodna Farr purchased the farm in 1950 and sold it in 1972 to Richard and Lydia Terrier, keeping the area where the campground is located. The campground was started in 1966-67. It is a member of the Vermont Campground Association. Originally a bathhouse and seven tent sites comprised the campground. Later a swimming pool fed by a mountain spring was added. Because of demand, more and more sites were built until now there are approximately fifty sites, more than half with sewer, water, and

electrical hookups for travel trailers. The camping area is open year round. Howard and Kolona Zeno are now resident winter managers and keep roads plowed and water running freely for winter campers.

In August of 1978, a tornado hit one section of the campground, clearing a path one-hundred feet wide. In 1979, the sites were restored but that part of the campground remains almost treeless.

The area around Bristol and Elephant Mountain could not be more beautiful nor more relaxing for the weary traveler. Elephant Mountain Camping Area will continue to welcome visitors to this area.

Compiled by Rolan and Rodna Farr.

### River Haven

River Haven Grocery Store and Campground is situated one mile east of Route 116 on the Bristol-Lincoln Road. The campgrounds are owned by James Parrotto who maintains fifteen campsites, eight with electrical hookups. Also, there are five Ranger Cabins which are insulated and heated

and can accommodate four persons. All the campsites and cabins have fireplaces and picnic tables. Recreation at River Haven includes a playground, horse-shoe pits, basketball, volleyball, and badminton. The campgrounds are open May 1 through December 1. The grocery store on the premises is open year round.

Mr. Parrotto purchased River Haven in May 1979 from Burton J. and Miriam Murphy. They had operated a year-round venture and had purchased the property from the Burlington Savings Bank in 1967. Prior to that time, it was known as "Brookside Hide-Away Cabins" and was built in 1965 by John and Theresa Bouchard.

The New Haven River flows just behind River Haven Grocery Store and Campground. The location is well suited for tourists the year round with camping, swimming, fishing, and hunting along the New Haven River; hiking in Lincoln Gap; and skiing at nearby Sugarbush Valley Ski Resort and Mad River Ski Resort.

Compiled by James Parrotto.

### Winona Recreation Area

The Winona Recreation Area, owned by Lester and Sylvia Coffin, is located on their land on North Street, one and a half miles north of the traffic light in the center of Bristol Village. The campground area opened in 1969, and two years later a picnic and swimming area was opened across the road. The swimming pond is a man-made, spring-fed pond. For a few years, swimming lessons were offered. The swimming and picnic area was open to the public, but presently is used only by campers. The campground is open May 1 to October 15.

The Winona Recreation Area is not to be confused with Lake Winona, commonly known to local residents as Bristol Pond, which is located further north of the Village.

Information compiled by Sylvia Coffin.



*Tornado on Elephant Mountain — August 1978*



## XX Interesting Spots

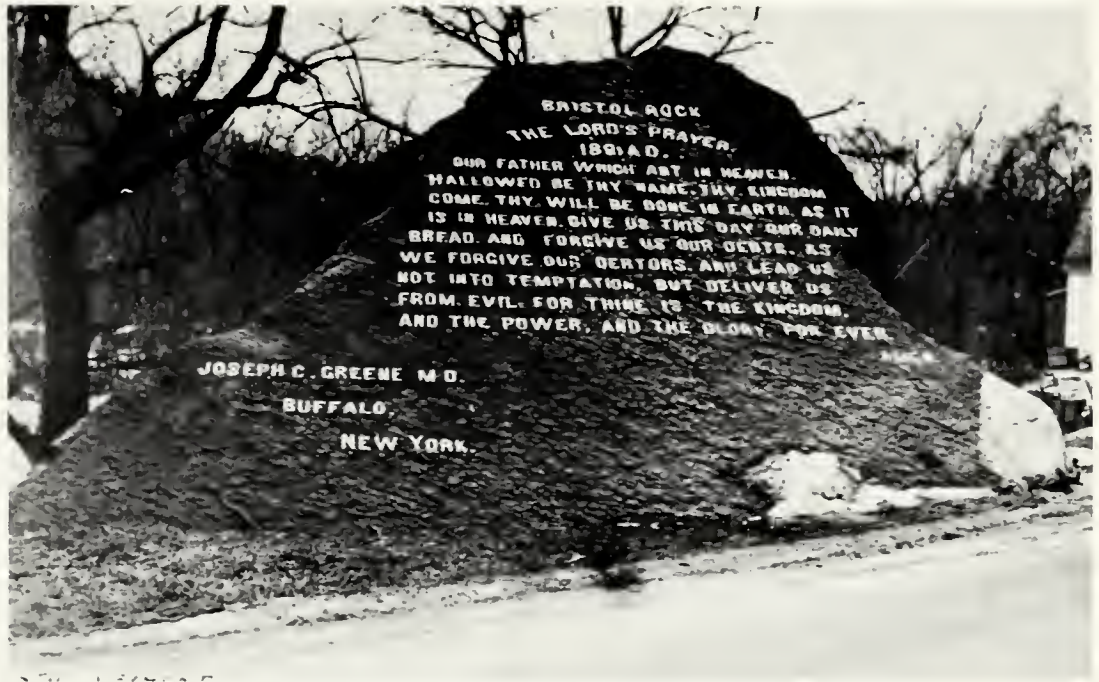
### Lord's Prayer Rock

One of the most unique spots of interest in Bristol is the Lord's Prayer Rock. It is located at the foot of Drake's Hill at the entrance to Bristol Village from the east on Route 17. The Lord's Prayer is chiseled upon this great rock which sits just by the side of the road. There is a picnic area there maintained by the Rotary Club. It is a refreshing place to pause along the New Haven River. It is said there is only one other Lord's Prayer Rock in the entire world.

The story of the rock varies somewhat. When Joseph C. Greene was a boy and lived in South Starksboro, one of his tasks was to take the logs from the mountain top to the sawmill in Bristol. The Nine Bridge Road, or Drake Woods Road, in those days was a terrific ride. Not only were there nine bridges to cross, but the logs were big and apt to slide off. When he arrived at the "Big Rock," he knew his problems were over, so he said a little prayer, and breathed a sigh of relief knowing he would once more get his logs to the mill safely.

Years later, when he was a practicing physician in Buffalo, New York, he and his brother Dr. S. S. Greene, took a trip around the world. After seeing the hieroglyphics in Egypt, he decided to come home and have the Lord's Prayer chiseled on the rock that had given him peace of mind and a feeling of security when he was a boy so many years ago. In 1891, Dr. Greene came to Bristol for his vacation, and at that time hired W. N. McGee to do the engraving for him. After the engraving was done, the letters were painted with white paint, which has been frequently applied so that the letters can be seen easily from the road.

Much of the information above comes from Dr. Greene's daughter, Mrs. Julia Greene Willard (Mrs. Frederick B.) of Buffalo, New York, as told to the doctor's granddaughter, Juliet Greene Willard.



*Lord's Prayer Rock*

There is another story handed down from one generation of local residents to another that when the early woodsmen brought their logs to the mills in Bristol in the spring, there was a very bad mud hole. Their wheels would sink into the mud up to the hubs. The woodsmen would utter considerable profanity trying to get their log teams out of the mud, and this was the reason for Dr. Greene having the prayer chiseled on the rock.

Perhaps there is some truth to both of these reports. In any case, the citizens of Bristol appreciate the fact that Dr. Greene and Mr. McGee left this inspirational rock for our benefit.

### Money Diggings

The story of the buried treasure at the base of South Mountain in Bristol started about 1800 when an old Spaniard, named DeGrau, appeared in Bristol. Having procured the necessary supplies, he took up residence near the foot of South Mountain where he began digging among the rocks. At first he refused to account for himself,

but when forced he claimed that as a small boy he accompanied his father and a group of other people to this same spot where they mined a quantity of silver bars. When winter came, they had to leave but had no way of transporting the silver so they secreted it in a nearby cave which they closed up with stones and clay. They were to return the next year but events occurred which prevented their ever returning. They were now all dead except DeGrau and he had come to claim the treasure. His story seemed accurate in detail and he spent some time digging, but he finally became discouraged and left, saying that he must have been mistaken in the location.

A few years later, an odd-looking vessel was found near this spot and some people thought that it might have belonged to the party that DeGrau told about. From that time on, various parties started digging there, one group would give up discouraged and another would begin. About 1840, a group of a dozen men came from the Canadian border and began to work with system and diligence. They formed a stock company, inviting the public to join



them. Every dollar that a person invested in the company entitled him to \$100 worth of the treasure, when it was found. The leading spirit of the enterprise was a man named Simeon Coreser who, being a salesman of great ability, talked many people into buying stock. This group worked twelve years on the project and spent \$10,000 tunneling in the rock but finally gave it up as hopeless. In 1860, Coreser came back but gave up after two months digging.

The previous information was taken from *History of the Treasure Diggings* written by Franklin Harvey in 1889-90. Mr. Harvey died in 1893, but that was not the end of the money digging's story. People are still gullible regarding the buried treasure as is shown by the fact that in 1934 a man from the nearby town of New Haven went to the same spot. He began digging and dynamiting until little remained of the original cave and the excavations made by the party who started digging there in 1840. This man did not go to conjurors for advice, as did the early seekers, but used a "divining rod" which he believed would find the treasure for him. This man's luck was the same as that of all the previous searchers and there is little doubt that DeGrau was mistaken in his site, for silver has never been found in this vicinity.

The site of the Money Diggings can be reached by starting at Holley Hall and driving down South Street and River Street. Stay on the east side of the river on the Lower Notch Road. Continue south to a plateau with open pastures on the west. The road goes up a small rise where a brook crosses via a double culvert. A hiking path leads across the brook and up a grade where the trail swings toward South Mountain. As the glen narrows, a small stream is followed for a short way leading to the Money Diggings area.

### Rattlesnake Den

Near the center of the west side of South Mountain, not far above the "Money Diggings," is an area of several acres of what appears from a distance to be smooth, naked rock but

on closer inspection proves to be a mass of broken stones piled promiscuously upon one another as if heaped by some giant hand. This heap of stones can be seen from Bristol Flats and other places in Bristol and adjoining towns. In early days, it was thickly infested with rattlesnakes and consequently has always borne the name of "Rattlesnake Den."

In the early days, people in Bristol and adjoining towns made a practice of hunting the snakes early in the spring when they first came out of their dens to curl themselves upon the warm rocks in the warm rays of the sun. At this season, they are very sluggish and are easily captured. It was not uncommon for a hundred or more to be killed in a day. A letter from John Stewart of Royalton, Ohio, son of Samuel Stewart, one of the very first settlers in Bristol, states that his father with Captain Cyprian Eastman, Captain Gurdon Munsill, and a few others whose names he had forgotten, once went to the den in the spring of the year and killed one-hundred-eighty snakes. They were piled up like a cock of hay after they were killed and left there as at that time no use was made of their skins.

The work of the early settlers in killing the rattlesnakes was very effective for it has been over one-hundred years since any of these snakes have been seen in Bristol.

This account was written for the *History of Bristol, Vermont*, First Edition, by Mrs. Jessie Stanton.

### Barker Charcoal Kiln

Midway between the Money Diggings and Rattlesnake Den, at the foot of South Mountain, lies the ruins of the Barker Charcoal Kiln, so-called from the small stream of that name on which it was situated. The usual method of obtaining charcoal was to heap the hardwood to be burned in a large pile on the ground and pack the earth all around it before firing it. It was a very arduous task as the current of air entering the kiln had to be regulated and the fire watched constantly. The Barker Kiln was more extensive than the usual type being a

stone enclosure, laid up with mortar, about ten feet high and twenty feet square. Openings the size of bricks were made on all four sides for drafts and bricks kept on hand to fill these openings when it was necessary to close the drafts. The south side of this kiln is still in almost perfect condition and is an interesting place to visit when one is in the vicinity.

### The Cobble Caves

In the extreme south part of Bristol, a short distance from the Middlebury line, is a large round hill known as "The Cobble." It stands considerably above the surrounding land. In this general area, three different caves can be explored. They are Bristol Cave, the Shed Caves, and the Barrel Cave.

To reach The Cobble area, drive south on Route 116 from Bristol for 6.5 miles. On the west side of the road, an old road leads off to the southwest. Follow this for eighty-five yards and turn right.

A hiking trail leads up a slope for another eighty-five yards. The trail forks and the right fork leads up a stony trail twenty-five yards to the large entrance of Bristol Cave. A tight passage in the interior of this cave leads to a large interior room.

Going north from Bristol Cave, the trail climbs steeply and swings to the south along the top of the cliffs where an excellent view is available. After some time, the trail dips about twenty feet to the openings of the Shed Caves. From these, the trail leads straight down to the old road about one-hundred yards beyond the first turn off.

A few yards below the Shed Caves, is the left fork of the original hiking trail. The left fork can be followed back along the ledge to the point below Bristol Cave. Along the way, the entrance to the Barrel Cave is passed. This is a tubelike opening two feet in diameter located seven feet above the trail. After passing through this very narrow tube for eighteen feet, a large room appears. In the large room, the remains of a limestone



stalactite can be seen, which was long ago broken off and carried away.

Much of the above information was compiled from a pamphlet called "Hiking Trails, Bristol, Vermont" written by John R. Burbank in 1965 for The Bristol Area Chamber of Commerce.

### **Bristol Veterans' Memorial Park**

At Town Meeting in 1959, the citizens of Bristol voted to establish a war memorial to the Bristol veterans of World War II and the Korean Conflict. The Selectmen appointed a committee consisting of B. W. Estey, Neil Frink, Henry Gurley, Graham Palmer, Jean Kenyon (Palmer), Carl Nelson, and Dorothy Purinton (Trudo). Later Donald James, Roland James, and William Wisell were added to the committee. Neil Frink served for several years as chairman of the committee and later Dorothy Trudo served as chairman.

In the following years, approximately twenty-four acres surrounding Burnham Falls on Baldwin Creek in the northeast corner of Bristol were acquired. The land immediately surrounding the Falls was donated by Dr. Daniel Birdsall of Scranton, Pennsylvania. The park is located five miles east of Bristol on Route 17, the McCullough Turnpike.

Construction of picnic areas, paths, stairs, and a bridge across the chasm was completed. A handsome sign designed, executed, and donated by Bristol artist Jack Wendel was hung at the entrance. It reads "Memorial Forest Park." A stone monument designed by Roland James was erected to which was attached a bronze plaque with an inscription composed by Neil Frink, early chairman of the park committee. The inscription reads: "This area has been set apart by the people of Bristol to honor those who served and perpetuate the memory of those who sacrificed their lives in World War II and the Korean Conflict. A living memorial dedicated to the use of future generations as a continuing symbol of the gratitude of a free people. Erected 1966." After nine years of work, the park was proudly dedicated on September 11, 1966.

### **Lake Winona (Bristol Pond)**

Lake Winona which is located at the base of Hogback Mountain about three miles north of the Village played an important part in the early history of Bristol. Undoubtedly of glacial origin, it now covers approximately two-hundred acres, but at a much earlier period of geological history it must have been one of the larger and deeper lakes in this section of the state. Proof of this is found in the extensive swamp and marsh, bounding the lake on three sides, which was at one time part of the pond and must have added several hundred acres to its area. Vegetable matter has washed from the nearby hills until the basin is nearly filled with it. The east side, unlike the other three sides, is bounded by a hard sandy beach back of which stands a growth of hard wood.

This pond was evidently a favorite haunt of Indians long before the town was settled by white men. Arrow and spear heads have been found here to prove that they used it as a hunting ground and pieces of pottery have been discovered to show that a group of them must have lived here.

Lake Winona, better known to local residents as Bristol Pond, has always been frequented by fishermen. Northernpike or pickerel, bull pouts, perch, and an abundance of sun fish are found here. Several years ago a colony of beavers came from parts unknown and built a dam at the outlet near the Bristol-Monkton town line, thus increasing the depth of water in the whole pond by nearly two feet. As soon as the food supply was exhausted, the beavers moved further down stream and the dam soon gave way. Several public-spirited citizens contributed their services, rebuilding the dam in a permanent form. After the beaver colony moved, it seems evident that a branch established itself at a smaller pond in the south part of the town, known as Gilmore Pond. This early information was written by Henry Harvey for the first edition of this history.

For many years, the A. Johnson Company of Bristol, cut lumber off the east or mountain side of the lake. This necessitated building good logging

roads to the pond both from the north and south. The road from the north was the old county road. The A. Johnson Company has since sold this land.

Building lots have been sold on the east side of the pond and presently there are about five camps in the area. There are no electric power or telephone lines to these camps. The Vermont Fish and Game Service built an access road to the lake so that boats can be launched. A small rock dam was built within the last ten years so the level of the pond remains more constant.

The name of Bristol Pond was changed to Lake Winona by act of the state legislature. Truman Varney, who resided on the present Francis Hefferman farm, represented Bristol in the Vermont State Legislature. He had the bill enacted to change the name to Lake Winona in honor of his granddaughter Winona Mayer (Austin) whom he and his wife raised. The act became effective February 17, 1931, but the pond is still known to local residents by its original name.

### **Burnham's Falls and Drake Woods**

Burnham's Falls, in Drake Woods, is also a point of interest. Orin Burnham owned and operated one of the early forges in Bristol just above these falls. This forge did not do well and Mr. Burnham became depressed; he committed suicide by jumping over the falls which have been known ever since as Burnham's Falls.

There was at that time no road through Drake Woods and the ore, which was mined in Crown Point, New York, was drawn by ox team over a long road which wound around through Starksboro before reaching the forge. At last a road was opened through these woods and there is a story that to celebrate this event Mr. Drake, the proprietor of a public house on the Starksboro road adjacent to the newly opened road, gave a party to which he invited the public. Here rum flowed freely and before the night was over the merrymakers had thrown Mr. Drake into the fireplace fortunately without causing him any harm. It was



due to this celebration, so generously provided by Mr. Drake, that this section received the name of Drake Woods.

### **Bartlett's Falls**

Bartlett's Falls is located on the road to Lincoln not far from the turn off of Route 116 east. The area around the falls was owned by the Central Vermont Public Service Corporation for many years. They had an electric plant farther down the river, but the dam and wheelhouse were located at Bartlett's Falls. The company stopped running the plant because of low water in the summer and over-aged equipment. Since that time, the Falls have

become a favorite swimming hole and picnic area for local residents. The cool, clear waters of the New Haven River collect in a deep pool and then run on down the river.

### **Chain Saw Sculptures**

In front of 34 Pleasant Street in Bristol Village, is a large tree trunk with a winking owl carved into it. This chain saw sculpture was done in 1973 by three Lincoln residents, Jeremy Perfect, Steve Halnon, and Don Rivait. They felt if this tree stump was too large to be cut for firewood and was to be left there, then it should become more decorative. With chain saw and chisel, they went to work and

within one day produced the winking owl.

Three years later, in 1976, Jeremy Perfect was asked by the Corkins brothers, owners of the Exxon Station on West Street, to do a carving for them. The large tree stump at the corner of their station property has a tiger, the Exxon trademark, carved into it. Mr. Perfect did this chain saw sculpture by himself over a period of three days. This one is signed in the lower corner "Jeremy." Many visitors to Bristol have taken pictures of the Exxon tiger. These two chain saw sculptures by local craftsmen will be enjoyed by many for years to come.

Information compiled by Jeremy Perfect.

## XXI Epilogue

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In conclusion ... who can foresee what the future of Bristol will be ... as in the early 1880's, some local residents popularized the idea that the world was coming to an end. People reacted differently to this announcement in Bristol. As the story goes, one lady sewed a pair of bloomers to wear under her long dress so that when she "was carried up" she would not be embarrassed. A grocery store owner in town told people to come to his store and take anything they wanted because he wouldn't be needing it when the world ended the next day. On the following day when the world did not end, this merchant tried to "collect." His customers of the previous day did not oblige. A resident of Bristol Flats awoke in the middle of the night on the date the world was to come to an end amazed to see the sky in the north aglow. Surely the prediction had come true. However, he was relieved to learn later that the glow came from a neighbor's livery stable which was ablaze! It is doubtful the neighbor was relieved .... This tale was related by a current local resident.

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## XXII Business Directory

### BRISTOL BUSINESS DIRECTORY — FEBRUARY 1980

We have attempted to list all businesses and services located within Bristol. If we have missed any, it is through an oversight on our part and we apologize.

**AMBULANCE SERVICE** — Bristol Rescue Squad.

**ANTIQUES** — King's Barn Annex, Gerald King; Rose-in-Hand Antiques, Lura and William Cardell.

**ATTORNEYS** — David A. Bronson; Ezra S. Dike; George R. Vince.

**AUTOMOBILE PARTS** — Bristol Paint & Glass and Auto Parts, Richard Cote, George Basil, and David Rowe.

**AUTOMOBILE SERVICES** — Hill Automotive, David Sharpe.

**BAKERY** — Bristol Bakery, Paul Ralston.

**BANK** — The Merchants Bank, Harold D. Benway, Bristol Bank Manager.

**BARBERS** — Armand's Barber Shop, Armand Compagna; Guy's Precision Cuts, Kim Robinson and Anne Paquette.

**BEAUTY PARLORS** — Bristol Beauty Bar, Lucile Skeffington; The Curling Iron, Patricia Ryan; Guy's Precision Cuts, Kim Robinson and Anne Paquette.

**BUILDERS/DEVELOPERS/CONTRACTORS** — Richard J. Austin; Henry Cook; Raymond Cook; Jimmo and Bushey, Leon Jimmo and Bernard Bushey; Terry Thomas.

**BUILDING SUPPLIES** — Lyon Hardware & Building Supply, Denton Lyon.

**CATERERS** — Linda Lathrop; Gertrude Bingham.

**CAMPGROUNDS** — Elephant Mountain Camping Area, Rolan and Rodna Farr; River Haven Campground, James Parrotto; Winona Recreation Area, Inc., Lester Coffin.

**CARPENTERS** — Roland and Dottie James.

**CHAIR CANING** — Gus Kusch.

**CLERGYMEN** — Rev. Augustus W. Dowdy, Jr., Baptist; Rev. Thomas Gibbs, Federated; Rev. H. Basil Nichols, Catholic.

**CLOTHING STORES** — Joni's, Joan Thomas; Thomas Sporting Goods, Anthony and Madine Thomas.

**DENTIST** — David F. Gage, D.D.S.

**DRUG STORES** — South Side Drug Store, Jack Anderson; Brooks Discount Store, Jan Pierce, Manager.

**ELECTRIC COMPANY** — Central Vermont Public Service Corporation.

**ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS** — Adams & McDonald, Thomas Adams and Barry McDonald; Palmer Electrical Services, Graham Palmer.

**EXCAVATING AND SEPTIC SERVICES** — Roger Blaise.

**FARM STANDS** — Clark's Greenhouse, Grace Clark; Jeffers' Farm and Garden Center, Dan and Frances Jeffers; Pine Tree Farms, Francis and Diane Heffernan.

**FILLING AND SERVICE STATIONS** — Chevron, Morgan Oil Corporation of Shoreham; Exxon, Corkins Brothers, Douglas, Keith, and Kevin Corkins; Texaco, Park Filling Station, George Apgar.

**FLORIST SHOP** — Sand & Pots, Sandy Murphy and Patricia Jackman.

**FOOD STAND** — Corkins Brothers Creeme Stand, Inc., Douglas, Keith, and Kevin Corkins.

**FUEL DEALERS** — Jackman's Inc., Frederick Jackman; Robinson Oil Company of Bristol, Inc.

**FUNERAL SERVICES** — Brown-McClay Funeral Homes, Inc., Gordon H. Brown, President.

**FURNITURE MANUFACTURING** — Deerleap Furniture Company, Clayton Ladeau, Jr.; Drake, Smith & Company, Inc., H. H. Haight.

**FURNITURE REFINISHING AND REPAIR** — The Furniture Doctor, Reed and Virginia Prescott.

**FURNITURE SALES, NEW** — Bristol Trading Post, Edward Tucker, Jr.; Deerleap Furniture Store, Clayton Ladeau, Jr.

**FURNITURE SALES, USED** — West End Furniture, Wallace R. Newton; King's Barn Annex, Gerald King.

**GROCERY STORES** — Addison County Buyers Club, Inc., Grocery Cooperative; Bristol Market, John and Shirley Coffey; Chick's on 116, Charles and Helen Lathrop; The Grand Union Company, Douglas Dion, Manager; Poor Richard's Corner Store, Richard Smith; River Haven Grocery Store, James Parrotto.

**GUNSMITH** — Perry's Machine & Repair Shop, David Perry.

**HARDWARE** — Lyon Hardware & Building Supply, Denton Lyon.

**INSULATION** — Warm Homes, Inc., Ric Wheeler.

**INSURANCE AGENCIES** — Bristol Insurance Agency, Stanton H. Bryden; Country Insurance, Inc., Alan Holcomb.

**INSURANCE BROKERS** — Gary Baker; Robert Stetson; Jay Vrooman.

**KENNEL** — Hill-Crest Kennels, Ruth Rivers.

**LAND FILL WASTE DISPOSAL** — Bristol Land Fill, Inc., Ted Hubbard.

**LAUNDRY** — Frank & Aggie's Coin Laundry, Frank and Agatha James.

**LAWNMOWER & TRACTOR, CHAIN SAWS, SALES & SERVICE** — Griggs Sales and Service, Cloise and Ila Griggs.

**LUMBER MILLS** — The A. Johnson Company, Andrew Johnson; Claire Lathrop Band Mill, Inc., Claire Lathrop.

**LUMBER SHOP** — Lathrop's Maple Supply (figured maple and other specialty hardwoods), Thomas Lathrop.

**MACHINE SHOP** — Perry's Machine & Repair Shop, David Perry.

**MONUMENT DEALERS** — Peter A. Nelson Memorials, Inc., Carl A. Nelson.

**MOTOR INN** — The Bristol Motor Inn, Henry and Alice Reimers.

**NEWSSTANDS** — Park Filling Station, George Apgar; Brooks Discount Store, Jan Pierce, Manager; Poor Richard's Corner Store, Richard Smith; The Grand Union Company, Douglas Dion, Manager; Bristol Market, John and Shirley Coffey.

**NURSERY/DAY CARE SCHOOLS** — Kid's Campus, Karen Yager; Village Nursery School, Bonnie Gridley.

**NURSING HOME** — Marjorie Paquette.

**OPTOMETRIST** — Melvin W. Simmons, O.D.

**PAINT STORE** — Bristol Paint & Glass and Auto Parts, Richard Cote, George Basil, and David Rowe.

**PAINTERS AND PAPER HANGERS** — Roland and Dottie James; Thomas Cousino.

**PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES, AND FILM DEVELOPMENT** — Frank's Photo, Frank James; South Side Drug Store, Jack Anderson; Brooks Discount Store, Jan Pierce, Manager.

**PHYSICIANS** — Harold E. Williamson, M.D.; David F. Henderson, M.D.

**PIANO TECHNICIAN** — Rev. Edwin A. Hilbert, Jr.

**PLUMBING AND HEATING** — Adams & McDonald, Thomas Adams and Barry McDonald; Daniel Heath; Pete Hansen.

**POTTERY** — Bristol Pottery, Bronwen Bradley-Dobson; Mad River Pottery, Robert Comp-ton; Tomasi Pottery, Peter Tomasi.

**PRINTING** — The Bristol Press, Lyndon Fish.

**REAL ESTATE** — Bristol Insurance Agency and Real Estate, Stanton H. Bryden; The Bristol Real Estate Agency, Edward P. Burke; Burke Real Estate Agency, Michael Burke; Leon Bushey.

**RECREATIONAL VEHICLES** — Bristol Auto & Trailer Sales, Morton Doolittle.

**RESTAURANTS** — The Bristol Tavern, Wendel Farrell; Cubber's, Steve Adams; The Kountry Kupboard, Richard Provost; Mary's Restaurant, William Danforth; Morgan's Restaurant, Maggie Morgan; The Rusty Hub, Brian Brown; The Village Gate, Nicholas Liberio.

**SPORTING GOODS** — Thomas Sporting Goods, Tony and Madine Thomas.

**SPROUTS** — Vermont Sprout House, Inc., John and Susan Tomasi.

**SURVEYORS** — Ronald L. LaRose, Registered Land Surveyor; Kenneth Weston, Registered Land Surveyor and Consulting Forester.

**TELEPHONE COMPANY** — Continental Telephone of Vermont.

**TELEVISION (CABLE)** — Warner Cable of Bristol, Terry Gould.

**TELEVISION SALES & SERVICE** — Bristol Electronics, David Cobb; Earl Gove TV Sales and Service, Earl Gove, Jr.

**TOYS AND NOVELTIES** — Freemountain Toys, Inc. (Vegimals), Beverly Red.

**TRANSPORTATION** — Joe's Bus Service, Joseph Pechie; Taxi, Gladys Hagan.

**VARIETY STORE** — Ben Franklin Store, Donald and Dorothy Frey.

**WELDING** — Pierce's Repair Service, Warner Pierce; Brown's Welding, Craig W. Brown.

## XXIII Veterans' Lists

### Introduction

The following veterans' lists were taken from various sources. The Civil War list was obtained from H. P. Smith's *History of Addison County* and from gravestones in Greenwood Cemetery. The records of the Grand Army of the Republic were burned so the list may be incomplete. This list was included in the 1940 edition of this history.

The Spanish-American War veterans' list includes simply those men known to have served. There may be others but there were no records obtainable. This list appeared in the 1940 edition of this history.

The World War I veterans' list was copied directly off the bronze tablet on the memorial rock on the Village Park. The tablet was placed there by Bristol Post #19 American Legion. The bottom line of the tablet reads, "Their Name Liveth for Ever More."

The World War II veterans' list was copied off a photograph of the original Honor Roll erected in front of Holley Hall by Post #19. We hope it is complete.

The Korean Conflict veterans' list was obtained from the State of Vermont Veterans' Affairs Office. The war dates of the Korean era are June 27, 1950 to January 21, 1955. It was pointed out by the Veterans' Affairs Office that sometimes R.F.D. addresses are confused with home towns and also career people are not included.

The Vietnam Era veterans' list was obtained from the Veterans' Affairs Office as well. The war dates applicable here are August 5, 1964 to May 7, 1975.

### VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR FROM THE TOWN OF BRISTOL

BACON, J. M.  
BAKER, A. F.  
BANCROFT, E. R.  
BARNES, E. D.  
BARTLETT, C. L.  
BECKWITH, H. R.

BEZNER, A.  
BEZNER, J.  
BICKNELL, W. E.  
BIRD, R. A.  
BOWERS, C.  
BOWERS, C.  
BOWERS, H.  
BROOKS, H.  
BROOKS, W.  
BROWN, R. C.  
BUNKER, G. H.  
BUSH, NAPOLEON  
BUSHEE, MOSES  
BUTLER, ABRAHAM  
BUTLER, HENRY  
BUTTERFIELD, A.  
CALLIHAN, M.  
CHASE, E. D.  
CHILLSON, E. D.  
CLAPPER, CHARLES  
CLAPPER, JOSEPH  
COOK, H.  
DANFORTH, A.  
DANIEL, F.  
DRAKE, G. E.  
DRAKE, O. B.  
DUNSHEE, NOBLE F.  
DUNSHEE, W. B.  
DUSHON, C. E.  
DWYER, F. M.  
DWYER, PHILIP  
EMERSON, J. C.  
FINCH, L. C.  
FOSTER, E. J.  
GAUTHIER, A. N.  
GRAVEL, NICHOLAS  
GREEN, G. W.  
GREENOUGH, FRANK  
GRIMES, C.  
GRINNELL, B. J.  
GRINNELL, F. W.  
GUINAN, ED  
HAGAN, JOHN  
HAMBLIN, DAVID  
HASTINGS, J. B.  
HICKINS, B. F.  
HILTON, J. W.  
HINES, J.  
JACOBS, E. R.  
JACOBS, U. D.  
LELAND, A. A.  
LATHROP, NOAH  
MANUM, A. E.  
MAY, H. D.  
MCINTYRE, NAPOLEON  
MCVAR, JOHN  
MELIAN, M.  
MOODY, JAMES  
MORGAN, S. S.  
MULLENS, G.  
MULLINGS, F.  
MUNROE, DANIEL  
MUNROE, RICHARD  
MYERS, C. R.  
MYERS, H. C.  
NEEDHAM, W. W.  
NELSON, C. E.

NOLAND, H.  
OAKES, J.  
O'BRIAN, CHARLES  
O'BRIAN, HORACE  
ORCUTT, LOREN  
PALMER, E. B.  
PALMER, S. W.  
PATNO, D.  
PETERS, A. A.  
PHINNEY, P.  
PLAIN, ISRAEL  
POWERS, H. C.  
PRESTON, S.  
PRIME, H. L.  
PRINCE, CHARLES  
QUIMBY, D. C.  
QUIMBY, J. B.  
RANDALL, C. J. S.  
RICHARDSON, W. T.  
ROBBINS, HORACE  
ROBERTS, N.  
ROUELL, ALFRED  
SCARBOROUGH, JOHN  
SCARBOROUGH, WILLIAM  
SHADRICK, ISAAC  
SHADRICK, JAMES  
SHADRICK, JOHN  
SHADRICK, WILLIAM  
SHADRICK, WILLIAM  
SHARLOW, R.  
SHELDON, BENJAMIN  
SHELDON, J.  
STEADY, JR., L.  
STRAIT, F.  
TART, E.  
TART, N.  
TATRO, E.  
THOMPSON, D. R.  
THOMPSON, N. C.  
VRADENBURG, E.  
VRADENBURG, S.  
WALKER, L. S.  
WARNER, C. B.  
WEAVER, J.  
WEAVER, L. F.  
WHEELER, C. E. P.  
WHITTEMORE, JR., DANIEL  
WHITTEMORE, ED  
WHITTEMORE, GEORGE  
WRIGHT, E. C.  
YATTAW, C.

### VETERANS OF THE SPANISH- AMERICAN WAR FROM THE TOWN OF BRISTOL

BOSWORTH, DAVID  
BROOKS, VERN  
FOYLES, HAROLD  
GUINAN, CLAUDE  
HANKS, JUDSON  
SHEDRICK, WALTER  
TABOR, \_\_\_\_\_



## VETERANS OF WORLD WAR I FROM THE TOWN OF BRISTOL

\*Deceased

### ARMY 1917-1919

ATKINS, ERWIN L.  
BETTS, LEIGHTON H.  
BINGHAM, LEON B.  
BLANCHARD, EDWARD F.  
BLANCHARD, JOHN F.  
BOOSKA, WALLACE J.  
BRONSON, FAY E.  
BRONSON, ROBERT H.  
BROWN, CONRAD V.  
BUTLER, CYRUS A.  
CAMARRA, N. J.  
CHANDLER, ABEL J.  
CHAPMAN, HARRISON W.  
CLAPPER, ERNEST H.  
CLAPPER, WALLACE H.  
CLARK, CARL E.  
CORMIER, GEORGE A.  
CORMIER, WILLARD W.  
COURSEY, HAROLD  
COUSINO, FRANCIS H.  
DALTON, JOHN F.  
DANFORTH, WALTER H.  
DEVOID, ALFRED G.  
DEVOID, GEORGE A.  
DURFEE, VOLNEY L.  
DWIRE, HENRY F.  
DWIRE, JOHN L.  
EDMUNDS, WILLIAM H.  
FRENCH, PETER H.  
GUINAN, HOWARD E.  
HAGAN, ALFRED J.  
HIER, WILLIAM R.  
\*HILL, VERNON H.  
HUGHES, BENNETT O.  
HURLBURT, NEWTON A.  
HUTCHINS, CLYDE  
HUTCHINS, GUY H.  
HUTCHINS, RAY A.  
IRISH, WALTER L.  
JACOBS, CHESTER E.  
JONES, CASPER K.  
KILBOURN, FRANCIS L.  
LANGEWAY, GROVER C.  
LATHROP, LEWIS C.  
LATTRELL, ALPHUS F.  
LAWRENCE, PHILIP D.  
LEE, GEORGE W.  
LEVARN, HOWARD E.  
LOWELL, RUSSELL J.  
\*MASON, WALTER  
McCORMICK, CLINTON F.  
McCORMICK, HOWARD E.  
McCORMICK, ROLLA A.  
McKINNON, CHARLES A.  
McKINNON, DANIEL  
McKINNON, THOMAS A.  
McSHANE, BERNARD J.  
McSHANE, LAURENCE E.  
MOTT, GEORGE H.  
MURRAY, GEORGE H.  
NORTON, J. CARDELL  
O'BRYAN, GUY A.  
PALMER, LEVERETTE G. E.  
PALMER, RALPH F.  
PECOR, VERNIE J.

PHILLIPS, WILLIAM E.  
PRIME, ARTHUR C.  
\*PRIME, DEAN W.  
PROVONCHA, ALBIA N.  
RATHBUN, HENRY E.  
SHEPARD, MELWOOD S.  
SHIVERETTE, HAROLD O.  
\*SHIVERETTE, TRUMAN E.  
SMITH, CARL  
SMITH, CLEMENT C.  
ST. GEORGE, FRANCIS E.  
SUMNER, BERLEY F.  
SUMNER, CECIL S.  
THOMAS, FORD M.  
THOMPSON, NORMAN L.  
TODD, JOHN B.  
TURNER, JAMES F.  
WHITE, LYNWOOD G.  
WILLIAMSON, HAROLD L. (Dr.)  
WILSON, DONALD J.

### NAVY

\*BILLINGS, LESLIE E.  
DRUMMOND, ARTHUR S.  
FRARY, LYMAN L.  
LAFAYETTE, LEONARD W.  
PRIME, MERRILL C.  
STEARNS, CARROLL R.  
THOMPSON, FAY J.  
WENDEL, MARVIN J.

### STUDENT ARMY TRAINING CORPS

BRONSON, LEWIS C.  
CARDELL, JEREMIAH C.  
DeCOURSEY, JOHN F.  
GRANT, ALLEN L.  
LAMB, CHARLES F.  
LAWRENCE, SPENCER D.  
McCLUNIN, FRED A.  
NORTON, RIDLEY J.  
SPRAGUE, DUANE O.

## VETERANS OF WORLD WAR II FROM THE TOWN OF BRISTOL

\* Deceased

### WOMEN

DWYER, A. K.  
HARRIS, W. M.  
HOPKINS, M. H.  
KILBOURN, E. M.  
LANCTOT, H. R.  
SELDEN, M. H.

### MEN

ABRAMS, B.  
ABRAMS, H.  
ABRAMS, P. L.  
ATKINS, E. T.  
ATKINS, L. H.  
ATKINS, N. T.  
AYERS, C. P.  
BABCOCK, A. F.  
BALL, H. W.  
BENEDICT, R. G.  
BENJAMIN, D. B.  
BICKNELL, B. K.

BOOSKA, I. R.  
BOOSKA, L. H.  
BOOSKA, P. P.  
\* BOOSKA, R. B.  
\* BOSTWICK, C. E.  
BOSWORTH, J. F.  
BOUVIER, J. A.  
BOUVIER, L. W.  
BRACE, W. H.  
BROWN, C. W.  
BROWN, W. F.  
BUSHEY, V. M.  
CARLSTROM, F.  
CHANDLER, S. R.  
CHURCHILL, L. C.  
CLAPPER, A. W.  
COATES, H. M.  
COMSTOCK, B. L.  
COMSTOCK, C. F.  
COMSTOCK, R. C.  
COOK, R. H.  
CORKINS, G. M.  
CORLISS, W. G.  
COUSINO, L. J.  
COUSINO, R. F.  
CRAGEN, Sr. J. E.  
CRAGEN, Jr., J. E.  
CROSSMAN, B. A.  
CULVER, V. M.  
DAVIS, J. A.  
DAVIS, L. W.  
DENNY, F. M.  
DERBY, J. W.  
DESORDA, F. J.  
DESORDA, L. J.  
DEVINE, R. G.  
DICKERMAN, F. B.  
DIKE, C. A.  
DIKE, E. S.  
DOW, E. R.  
DUMAS, H.  
DUMAS, M. T.  
DUPREY, F. P.  
DUPREY, K. T.  
DWYER, E. B.  
DWYER, R. G.  
EDDY, F. L.  
EDDY, W. L.  
\* EDWARDS, J. O.  
EMMONS, F. J.  
EMMONS, P. E.  
ESTEY, W. G.  
ETHIER, J. E.  
FARR, H. S.  
FORTUNE, C. V.  
FORTUNE, L.  
FOX, F. E.  
FRARY, L. L.  
GENDRON, C. E.  
GILMORE, H. R.  
GLADDING, S. H.  
GOVE, S. K.  
GRANT, W. S.  
GREENE, J. H.  
HANNON, G. E.  
HASSELTINE, C.  
HASSELTINE, H.  
HASSELTINE, L.  
HASSELTINE, R.  
HIER, G. F.  
HIER, V. W.  
HILL, C. N.

HOLMES, C. L.  
 HOWLEY, C.  
 HURLBURT, C. N.  
 \* HURLBURT, E. K.  
 JACKMAN, F. E.  
 JACKMAN, F. S.  
 JACKMAN, G. F.  
 JACKMAN, K. V.  
 JACKMAN, R. J.  
 JACOBS, B. E.  
 JAMES, F. P.  
 JENNINGS, G. I.  
 JIMMO, C. C.  
 JIMMO, L. J.  
 JOHNSON, A. F.  
 JOHNSON, H. W.  
 KILBOURN, W. A.  
 KINGSLAND, E.  
 KONDRA, V.  
 KOWAL, W. S.  
 LADEAU, H. A.  
 LADUE, A. M.  
 LADUE, F. G.  
 LAFLEY, K. C.  
 LAFRANCE, H.  
 LAMB, C. F.  
 LAROCQUE, C.  
 LAROCQUE, JR., L.  
 LATHROP, C. F.  
 LATHROP, N. W.  
 LATTRELL, F.  
 LAWRENCE, H.  
 LEVARN, L. L.  
 LIBERTY, M. W.  
 LITTLE, L. J.  
 LITTLE, P. W.  
 LOVEN, E. E.  
 LUCIA, C. F.  
 LUCIA, J. M.  
 LUCIA, M. T.  
 LUCIA, N. J.  
 MARANVILLE, J.  
 \* MCINTYRE, R.  
 MEILLEUR, C. T.  
 MILLER, E. E.  
 MOTT, F. J.  
 MYERS, D. J.  
 MYERS, H. K.  
 NELSON, I. A.  
 NEWTON, F. T.  
 NORTON, R. A.  
 ORVIS, V. O.  
 PALMER, J. E.  
 PALMER, R. D.  
 PATNODE, R. M.  
 PERRY, A. J.  
 PERRY, D. L.  
 PERRY, M. W.  
 PRIME, D. V.  
 PRIME, W. E.  
 RIDLEY, J. R.  
 RIVERS, H. F.  
 ROCKWELL, R.  
 ROSCOE, H. H.  
 ROSCOE, L. E.  
 ROSCOE, R. E.  
 RUGG, K. K.  
 SELDEN, J. L.  
 SHADRICK, W. K.  
 SHEDRICK, G. T.  
 SMITH, C. J.  
 SMITH, C. S.

SMITH, D. G.  
 SMITH, G. E.  
 SMITH, JR., H. A.  
 SMITH, J. C.  
 SMITH, R. J.  
 SMITH, R. W.  
 STANHOPE, W.  
 STEADMAN, E.  
 STEADMAN, L.  
 SUMNER, L. P.  
 TATRO, M. E.  
 THOMAS, JR., F.  
 THOMAS, J. R.  
 THOMAS, R. H.  
 THOMAS, R. S.  
 \* TOBIN, H. W.  
 TOMASI, J. A. D.  
 TROMBLEY, W.  
 TUBBS, W. E.  
 TYLER, J. W.  
 TYO, C.  
 VASSAR, W. F.  
 VINCENT, D. F.  
 WAINWRIGHT, E.  
 WAINWRIGHT, K.  
 WEAVER, T. G.  
 WENDEL, J. E.  
 WHEELER, M. E.  
 WHEELOCK, A.  
 WHITE, W. E.  
 WILLEY, R. O.  
 WILLIAMSON, H.  
 WILSON, D. E.  
 WRIGHT, W. M.

#### **VETERANS OF THE KOREAN CONFLICT FROM THE TOWN OF BRISTOL**

ALDRICH, ARNOLD C.  
 ALDRICH, WILLIAM M.  
 ALLEN, DONALD P.  
 ATKINS, ROBERT F.  
 ATKINS, WALTER I.  
 BASLOW, NORMAN C.  
 BEDARD, DONALD A.  
 BEDARD, ROBERT O.  
 BILLINGS, RICHARD F.  
 BOOSKA, EARL G.  
 BRACE, JR., LESTER  
 BROMLEY, GORDON E.  
 BROWN, BERNARD E.  
 BROWN, FRANCIS G.  
 BURBANK, JOHN R.  
 BURT, RAYMOND W.  
 CARPENTER, GEORGE H.  
 CARPENTER, ROBERT H.  
 CARTER, ROBERT N.  
 CLAPPER, CHARLES E.  
 CLAPPER, DONALD E.  
 CORLISS, ELWIN  
 COUSINO, AMBROSE F.  
 COUSINO, CLEMENT A.  
 COUSINO, GLEN A.  
 COUSINO, MELVIN A.  
 COUSINO, WILLIAM F.  
 DEARBORN, CEYLON H.

DERBY, EDWIN R.  
 DERBY, GEORGE E.  
 DENEVE, RONALD M.  
 DOREY, JR., LEO J.  
 DOUGLAS, CARROLL L.  
 DOWNER, ALBERT  
 DOWNER, DONALD E.  
 DOWNER, HAROLD F.  
 DOWNER, HERBERT H.  
 DUCLOS, JOSEPH E.  
 DUPREY, FRANKLIN P.  
 EMMONS, BRUCE M.  
 EMMONS, FLOYD J.  
 EMMONS, WAYNE B.  
 ESTEY, FRANK E.  
 FARR, HARVEY C.  
 FORAND, CHARLES S.  
 FREGARD, ROGER E.  
 FULLER, PAUL A.  
 GARDNER, PHILIP K.  
 GEVRY, PAUL J.  
 \*GOVE, SILAS  
 GRACE, ELLIS S.  
 GRACE, LAWRENCE T.  
 GRACE, ROLAND  
 GREGORY, ROBERT W.  
 HAINES, HERBERT H.  
 HAINES, RICHARD E.  
 HAMMOND, SIDNEY E.  
 HAMNER, LLOYD W.  
 HANSON, CHARLES A.  
 HARRIMAN, JR., RALPH E.  
 HIER, ALBERTINE A.  
 HIER, FRANKLIN D.  
 HIER, JOSEPH A.  
 HIER, VERNARD W.  
 HILL, JR., CHARLES N.  
 HILL, HAROLD W.  
 HILL, REGINALD O.  
 HILL, WILLIAM W.  
 HOWLEY, HAROLD R.  
 HUTCHINS, RAYMOND O.  
 INGRAM, GEORGE E.  
 INGRAM, RAYMOND K.  
 JEFFERS, FRANCES-ANN  
 JENKINS, ALFRED CAMERON  
 KENYON, GARDINER T.  
 KENYON, JR., HAROLD C.  
 KILBOURN, WILLIAM A.  
 KINGMAN, DARWIN J.  
 KIRBY, CRAIG E.  
 LADEAU, WILLIAM R.  
 LADUE, EARL B.  
 LADUE, LAWRENCE W.  
 LADUE, ROBERT G.  
 LAFOY, ROBERT C.  
 LAFRANCE, JR., ARTHUR G.  
 LAFRANCE, SYLVIA A.  
 LAROCQUE, CHARLES F.  
 LAROSE, DAYTON L.  
 LARROW, JOHN W.  
 LATHROP, CHARLES F.  
 LATTRELL, FRANK A.  
 LATTRELL, LEON E.  
 LEVARN, LEONARD L.  
 MARTELL, FLOYD E.  
 MARTELL, ROGER E.  
 MCKINNON, RODNEY J.  
 MCKINNON, THOMAS L.  
 MENTER, ROBERT H.  
 METZ, ROBERT A.  
 MORRISON, CARROLL J.

MORRISON, RAYMOND R.  
 NELSON, CARL A.  
 NELSON, EDWIN O.  
 NELSON, PETER J.  
 PIERSON, GEORGE  
 PINSONAULT, ROGER O.  
 PRIME, ARTHUR T.  
 PRIME, WELDON E.  
 ROBIDOUX, JOSEPH L.  
 ROCKWOOD, GEORGE D.  
 ROCKWOOD, RICHARD A.  
 SCRIBNER, GERALD B.  
 SMITH, CLINTON D.  
 SMITH, DONALD G.  
 SMITH, STANLEY O.  
 SNOW, JR., MERRYLYN L.  
 SPEER, ARTHUR D.  
 STEADMAN, LEWIS H.  
 SUMNER, FRANCIS R.  
 SUMNER, TEX C.  
 TATRO, GEORGE L.  
 THOMAS, ROBERT H.  
 THOMPSON, CLEMENT L.  
 TROMBLEY, HAROLD N.  
 TUDHOPE, JOHN W.  
 VASSAR, WILLIAM  
 WENDEL, HAROLD E.  
 WHITE, DONALD E.  
 WILLIAMS, ROBERT H. (KIA)  
 WILLIAMS, THEODORE C.  
 ZENO, GLENN R.  
 ZENO, HOWARD R.

#### **VETERANS OF THE VIETNAM ERA FROM THE TOWN OF BRISTOL**

ALDRICH, WILLIAM M.  
 ALEXANDER, KENNETH D.  
 ATHERTON, WILLIAM C.  
 AUSTIN, JR., RICHARD J.  
 BARROWS, MICHAEL F.  
 BARTLETT, DONNA S.  
 BEDARD, BRADLEY N.  
 BEDARD, MICHAEL W.  
 BELL, CARROLL G.  
 BENEDICT, ROLLIN G.  
 BOISE, MICHAEL P.  
 BOISE, ROBERT F.  
 BOLIO, ROLLIN R.  
 BOOSKA, EARL G.  
 BOOTH, ANDREW P.  
 BOYER, DANIEL W.  
 BROOKS, RICHARD R. J.  
 BROWN, JAMES M.  
 BURRITT, GEORGE L.  
 CARLSON, LAWRENCE A.  
 CARLSON, THOMAS P.  
 CHARBONNEAU, JEAN M.  
 CLAPPER, CHARLES E.  
 CLARK, GILBERT W.  
 CLARK, STEPHEN E.  
 COBB, NORMAN L.  
 CHAMBERLAIN, BARRY J.  
 COLEMAN, LAWRENCE J.  
 COLEMAN, ROBERT W.  
 COLEMAN, JR., RONALD B.  
 COOK, GERALD D.  
 COUSINO, BRUCE L.



COUSINO, LEO E.  
COUSINO, MARCEL N.  
COUSINO, MARK L.  
COUSINO, MAURICE F.  
COUSINO, MICHAEL R.  
COUSINO, ROGER A.  
COUSINO, RONALD F.  
COUSINO, THOMAS J.  
COWIN, LEROY T.  
CURAVOO, ALFRED B.  
CURAVOO, Jr., FREDERIC F.  
CURAVOO, STEPHEN H.  
CUSHMAN, THOMAS J.  
D'AVIGNON, PATRICK J.  
DAY, STEPHEN H.  
DEARBORN, JEFFERY D.  
DERBY, THOMAS E.  
DIKE, LLOYD K.  
DRAGON, ROBERT S.  
DWYER, RICHARD E.  
DWYER, ROBERT A.  
EMILO, Jr., LOUIS J.  
EMMONS, BARRY E.  
EMMONS, BRUCE M.  
ESTEY, RICHARD B.  
FARR, EUGENE L.  
FARR, LEON W.  
FORAND, CHARLES S.  
FORAND, GEORGE E.  
FORAND, LEONARD A.  
FORAND, ROBERT A.  
FREEMAN, WALTER S.  
GARDNER, KENNETH R.  
GAY, STEPHEN H.  
GIROUX, ROY W.  
GORDON, ROGER A.  
GRACE, ELLIS S.  
GRACE, MICHAEL L.  
HALNON, Jr., LEONARD C.  
HAMMOND, SIDNEY E.  
HANCE, CHRISTINE M.  
HOADLEY, Jr., KENNETH E.  
HOFFNAGLE, ASAH E.  
HOLT, ERLAND G.  
JACKMAN, PAUL J.  
JAMES, Jr., FRANK P.  
JENNINGS, Jr., FREDERICK E.  
JETTE, SCOTT P.  
JIMMO, KARLA D.  
JIMMO, ROGER A.  
KEMP, Jr., GERALD G.  
KEMP, STEVEN J.  
KINGMAN, DARWIN J.  
LADUE, ARLAND W.  
LADUE, Jr., ARTHUR H.  
LAFLAM, LONNIE G.  
LAROSE, DAVID R.  
LAROSE, Jr., DAYTON L.  
LATHROP, CHARLES F.  
LATHROP, MICHAEL E.  
LATHROP, ROBERT E.  
LATHROP, ROGER C.  
LATHROP, WILLIAM N.  
LATTRELL, DENNIS R.  
LATTRELL, LANCE D.  
LAYN, CRAIG R.  
LAYNE, DANIEL R.  
LEE, Jr., EVERETT G.  
LEE, ROBERT E.  
LEMERY, ROBERT L.

LEVARN, DANA J.  
LORD, JOSEPH L.  
LUCIA, GEORGE H.  
LUCIA, JAMES R.  
LUCIA, KENNETH J.  
LUCIA, ROBERT A.  
MASON, JOSEPH R.  
MASTERSON, JOHN E. W.  
MAYER, RENE E.  
McDONOUGH, JEFFREY E.  
McDURFEE, DAVID A.  
MEADER, RALPH W.  
MORGAN, LARRY T.  
MORRISON, RAYMOND R.  
MURPHY, WILLIAM P.  
O'BRYAN, ROBERT A.  
O'NEILL, EDWARD W.  
O'NEILL, WILLIAM P.  
ORVIS, DALE C.  
ORVIS, DOUGLAS G. (KIA)  
ORVIS, ROSS MELVIN  
PALMER, GEORGE W.  
PECK, Jr., CHARLES H.  
PECK, DAVID C.  
PERFECT, JEREMY A.  
PERLEE, BRUCE R.  
PERLEE, GAIL MARIE  
PERLEE, PETER R.  
PERRON, CLEMENT A.  
PERRY, ADRIAN J.  
PIERCE, GERALD F.  
PILON, Jr., THEODORE E.  
PORTER, THOMAS K.  
PRIME, WELDON E.  
PURINTON, NELSON G.  
RATHBUN, ALLEN R.  
REYNOLDS, CALVIN R.  
REYNOLDS, STEPHEN R.  
RIVERS, JAMES A.  
ROCKWELL, DOUGLAS J.  
ROSE, MARK A.  
ROSCOE, KRIS D.  
RUSSELL, BOBBY J.  
RUSSELL, ERNEST R.  
RUSSELL, THOMAS G.  
SARGENT, ROBERT A.  
SARGENT, RODNEY C.  
SAUNDERS, THOMAS J.  
SHADRICK, KIRK W.  
SHEA, LARRY J.  
SHEPARD, EDWARD C.  
SMITH, III, LEWIS R.  
STEADY, Jr., LEO C.  
STRONG, DONNA M.  
SULLIVAN, JOSEPH P.  
SUMNER, RUSSELL G.  
SVENDSEN, ROBERT L.  
TANNER, ROBIN C.  
THOMPSON, MICHAEL H.  
THOMPSON, ROBERT V.  
TIERNEY, STEPHEN J.  
TRUAX, WARD B.  
TYLER, LAWRENCE R.  
VINCENT, CAROL L. JACQUES  
WAGNER, RICHARD C.  
WEAVER, STEVEN A.  
WEDGE, EARLE H.  
WEDGE, MICHAEL F.  
WELD, GARY W.  
WENDEL, HARLAND J.

WENDEL, JACK K.  
WENDEL, SCOTT L.  
WHEELER, GEORGE L.  
WHITCOMB, GEORGE V.  
WHITE, DONALD E.  
WILLEY, Jr., ROBERT O.  
WILLIAMS, DAVID L.  
WILLIAMS, KEITH E.  
WILLIAMS, MORRIS L.  
WILLIAMSON, RONALD D.  
WILSON, ANDON C.  
WISELL, DONALD F.  
WISELL, PETER J.

# XXIV Bristol Checklist

as of February 29, 1980

ABBOTT, JOHN NANCY	BAKER, GARY MARY RONALD WILLIAM	BEST, ROBERT	VIOLA	BROOKS, ERIC	BURRITT, GEORGE F.
ABEL, LOUISE	BALDWIN, GERTRUDE	BILLINGS, GRACE LLOYD M. KATHLEEN	BOOTH, MARGARET	ERIC KATHLEEN	GEORGE L.
ABERNATHY, CLARENCE DONNA	BANKER, BROOKS	BINGHAM, ANTONIA GERTRUDE GORDON	BOSS, BEVERLY LAURA RALPH	LOYAL PAULA RITA	JUDITH LAURA
ACKER, CHRISTOPHER LOUISE	BARNUM, DONNA LEIGHTON	BIRD, JOAN KENYON	BOSTWICK, ALICE	BROPHY, EILEEN	BURT, G. LEONARD
ADAMS, ALDEN CLIFTON, JR. ELEANOR LOUISE	BARROWS, ALVERTON DORIS GEORGE LOIS REX ROBERT	BISSONNETTE, CHERYL	BOSWORTH, CARLETON DOROTHY	BROUGHTON, MARY JANE MICHAEL J.	GRACE KATHI L. RODNEY
ADLER, EVE	BARSALOU, STEVEN	BLAISE, ALAN BRENDA CYNTHIA JOAN LILLIAN NINABELLE REGINALD ROGER	BOUVIER, ALICE BARBARA DEBORAH ERIC JAMES JAMES F. JEFFREY JOEL LAURA LAWRENCE 2ND LLOYD MARGARET MARK PETER ROSE TINA	BROUILLARD, ROLAND SHIRLEY	BUSHEY, BARBARA BERNARD BRADLEY EVA JANE LEON MARJORIE
AIKEN, CHARLOTTE KNYOCA RALPH	BARTLETT, DORIS FLOYD	BLAKELEY, MILDRED	BOYCE, ELIZABETH HARMON, JR.	BROWN, ALLEN BRIAN BETTY CEYLON COLLIN CRAIG H. CRAIG W. DANNY DEBRA DOROTHY FRANCIS GORDON JOHN P. JOYCE JOSEPH LOTTIE MARLENE MARY P. MICHAEL MINNIE M. SUE REBECCA RICHARD G. RITA SHIRLEY WENDELL WILFRED WILLIAM J. WILMA	BUSIER, DEBBIE STEPHEN
ALCROFT, DORIS	BASER, FREDERICK MARION	BLANCHETTE, CARLTON GARY LORRAINE PATRICIA	BOYD, MONA WILLIAM	BUTLER, ARTHUR AVID ELIZABETH HAROLD JAYNE JERRY KENNETH LARRY WILLIAM	BUTLER, ARTHUR AVID ELIZABETH HAROLD JAYNE JERRY KENNETH LARRY WILLIAM
ALDRICH, ALICE	BASHAW, GARLAND MARLENE MILDRED	BLESS, ELIZABETH STEVE	BOYER, PAUL SHIRLEY	BUTTERFIELD, BEATRICE FRANCIS OTTO GAIL	BUTTERFIELD, BEATRICE FRANCIS OTTO GAIL
ALEXANDER, ETHEL KENNETH MARY	BASIL, GEORGE	BODINGTON, DIANA	BOYNTON, GARY REGINALD	BUTTERWORTH, EVELYN	BUTTERWORTH, EVELYN
ALLNUTT, ALICE DEAN	BASLOW, BERNICE CLYDE DOROTHY EVA FRANCIS KATHLEEN LOVINA	BOEHM, DOUGLAS	BRACE, SYLVIA	BYINGTON, KATHERINE	BYINGTON, KATHERINE
AMBLO, SHIRLEY	BEARSE, RAYMOND	BOHANNON, JOANNE WILLARD	BRADLEY-DOBSON, BRONWEN	CALDWELL, KAREN	CALDWELL, KAREN
AMBROSE, JUDITH ANN THOMAS	BEDELL, PAULINE RICHARD	BOISE, ALICE JOHN MICHAEL	BRASSARD, FRANCOISE HARRIS JEANNETTE JOHN MARY ZENA	CAMPBELL, JAMES JANE	CAMPBELL, JAMES JANE
ANDERS, KAREN	BELISHE, DAVID SANDRA	BOISVERT, ERNESTINE JOSEPH MARY	BRASUR, BARBARA MARK PATRICIA	CAREY, JEANNETTE	CAREY, JEANNETTE
ANGIER, JAMES SUSAN	BENEDICT, GEORGE MAE MARJORIE PHILLIP ROLLIE THELMA	BOLDUC, CLAUDETTE JOSEPHAT MARY	BRENNAN, ILOENE JOSEPH	CARLSTROM, FREDERICK FRIEDA JACALYN RUBY	CARLSTROM, FREDERICK FRIEDA JACALYN RUBY
ASH, DANIEL EVELYN LEONARD	BENJAMIN, CARL DEWEY DORIS JAMES JEAN KATHLEEN MARION MELODY SHIRLEY	BOOSKA, ANNA BENNIE CATHY L. CECELIA CHRISTINE DOROTHY EDLOR ELIZABETH EVA JAMES JOAN LEONARD NORELL NORMAN NORTON T. ROBERT THOMAS	BREWER, LAWRENCE MARY	CARPENTER, DONALD ETHEL HAROLD LELAND MARY MILDRED NONA PAUL RICHARD ROBERT SHIRLEY STEPHEN	CARPENTER, DONALD ETHEL HAROLD LELAND MARY MILDRED NONA PAUL RICHARD ROBERT SHIRLEY STEPHEN
ASIAF, ARLEEN PETER	BENWAY, CYNTHIA HAROLD DALE		BRISTOL, HELEN HAZEL	CARTER, ALLIE CHERYL DEBRA EVELYN	CARTER, ALLIE CHERYL DEBRA EVELYN
ATHERTON, BRIEN ROMONA WILLIAM	BERMIER, WILLIAM		BROMLEY, CHARLES CLARABELLE CLAUDIA LYLE		
ATKINS, BETTY LUNA ROBERT ROGER	BERRY, JAMES		BRONSON, DAVID		
AUSTIN, RICHARD VIVIAN					
AYER, DOROTHY HAROLD					
AYERS, CHERYL					
BABCOCK, ARTHUR GEORGE OLIVE SYLVIA					



IRENE	COMSTOCK,	CURTIS,	LLOYD	EMILO,	LEONARD
JOYCE	ABBIE	MILDRED	NANCY	JOHN	NOLAN
ROBERT	DOLORES	NANCY	NORMA	SHIRLEY	PAMELA
TERRY	MARION	VERNON	RICHARD	EMMONS,	WILFRED
CASSIDY,	CONANT,	CUSHMAN,	DIMINICO,	HOWARD	FRARY,
BERNARD	PATRICIA	DIANE	PETER	LORRAINE	ADDIE MAE
CHAMBERLAIN,	CONNOLLY,	ELIZABETH	DIMOND,	PAUL	FRASER,
JEANNETTE	JOHN	THOMAS	LORETTA	ERWIN,	ALICE
LILA	SANDRA	CYR,	JERRY	CYNTHIA	HERBERT
CHAMPAGNE,	COOK,	ANDREW	DION,	GEORGE	FREEGARD,
DONNA	HENRY	CLAIRE	DAN	ESTEY,	ALICE
CHANDLER,	JOAN	EDITH	DOUGLAS	CURT	HERBERT
ELDON	MARYANN	HELEN	KIRK	DEBRA	FREEMAN,
KIRK	PENNY	PHILLIP	MARIE	ELTHEDA	WALTER S.
CHOINIERS,	RALPH	ROWENA	DOBSON,	GERALDINE	FRENCH,
ELIZABETH	RAYMOND	DALTON,	DAVID	JUDSON	HARVEY
MARK	ROY	ALICE	DODGE,	KAREN	MADELINE
CIRILLO,	SHARON	EVELYN	FLORENCE	LELAH	FRENZEL,
ANITA	CORKINS,	JANE	HAROLD	RICHARD	JOAN
FRANK	DEE N.	D'AVIGNON,	DOMINY,	RICHARD B.	MYRON
CLAPPER,	DOUGLAS	ANNE MARIE	CORA	WYMAN	FREY,
ALICE	KEITH	DANIEL	DONAHUE,	ETHIER,	ANDREW WILLIAM
DONALD	KEVIN	GERLENE	JOHN	BARRY	DONALD
PAUL	LANELL	HELEN	MARJORIE	EMILE	DOROTHY
CLARK,	CORLISS,	KENNETH	DOOLITTLE,	EUNICE	FRIEND,
ANNE	JEANNETTE	MICHAEL	DORIS	RONALD	DENNIS
BETTY	HOWARD	PATRICK	MORTON	EUBAR,	LUCILLE
GRACE	COTA,	ROBERT	DOUBLEDAY,	JENNIE	FROST,
GWENDOLYN	DENNIS	ROY	BRIAN	EVANS,	HELEN
JUNE	WINFIELD	THEODORE	DOW,	JOANNE	FULLER,
ROBERT	COTE,	DAVIS,	REX	RICHARD	EDWARD
ROY	CYNTHIA	BARBARA	DOWDY,	FARNSWORTH,	GLENN
STANLEY	RICHARD	DONALD	MARGARET	CAREEN	JAN
CLAUSS,	COTTER,	JOANNE	WILLIAM	LUCIEN	PAUL
CAROL	JEANNE	JOHN	DOWNER,	NILENE	RAMONA
CLERKIN,	COUSINO,	LARRY	ELIZABETH	FARR,	ROBERT
ESTELLE	ALLEN	LILA	KENNETH	ALFRED	GAGNON,
CLINE,	BARBARA	MADELINE	DRAGON,	ELAINE	LORENZO
VERA	BERNADETTE	ROBERT	ALICE	ELIZABETH	ROSELLA
CLODGO,	CHARLES	DEANGELIS,	STEPHEN	PAUL	GARDNER,
ALFRED	DENISE	DOMENICA	DRUMMOND,	RODNA	CHARLES
CONSTANCE	DORA	DEARBORN,	BILLY	ROLAN	JOHN
DAVID	FELIX	CEYLON	CARLANA	RUTHERFORD	OLETHA
LUCILLE	FRANCINE	DELPHINE	FRANCES	FERNANDEZ,	GAUDREAU,
STEPHEN	FRANK C.	GWEN	DUCLOS,	MARGARET	BLANCHE
CLOUGH,	GEORGE	JANE	ALFRETTE	MICHAEL	GERO,
ANNA	JANICE	REGINALD	ISOLINE	FERRIS,	ROSEMARY
COBB,	JAMES	DEMERS,	LEAH	BETTY	GILE,
DAVID	JOHN	GAYLORD	DUMAS,	JOSEPH	DONNA
ELISSA	LUCILLE	LINDA	CRAIG	FIELD,	LARRY
MAXINE	LUCIUS, JR.	DENTON,	HUBERT, JR.	SIMONE	GLADDING,
NORMAN	MARY	LEAH	HUBERT, SR.	FISH,	ANNA
CODDING,	MAURICE	DERBY,	LEILA	JACQUELINE	HOWARD
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ERNEST, SR.	MICHELLE	HUGH	MAX	FISHER,	GINNY
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LESTER	RODERIQUE	GUY	DEBRA	FLEMING,	MICHAEL
SYLVIA	ROGER	DESJADON,	RUTH	FRANCIS	RICHARD
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JOHN PETER	WAYNE	DIANE	DWIRE,	RICHARD	MARGARET
VICTORIA	WILLIAM	THEODORE	GRACE	FOLLANSBEE,	ROBERT
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COLEMAN,	DANIEL	LAURIE	DWYER,	GENEVIEVE	ARTHUR
BERNICE	GLORIA	HAZEL	ROBERT	GEORGE	GODARD,
DOROTHY	GRAM,	DEWITT,	DYKE,	HONORE	CHERYL
FRANK	MARLENE	GERALD	ERNEST	KATHRYN	DONALD
LAWRENCE	CRANE,	SHELBY	JOHN	FORGUES,	DORIS
RONALD	KATHRYN	DIETTE,	EKROOS,	BEVERLY	GODIN,
SHARON	ROBERT	JEANNETTE	LILLIAN	ROGER	LOUISE
COLLREN,	CULVER,	LAUREN ANN	WILLIAM	FORTE,	GONZALEZ,
GERTIE	IRA	LAWRENCE	ELDER,	CHARLES	ALFRED
COMES,	NEITA	DIKE,	JOHN	CHARLOTTE	BERNICE
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COMPAGNA,	GLADYS	CLIFTON	ELDRIDGE,	DONNA	AMANDA
ARMAND	ESTHER	DORIS	CAROL	THOMAS	C. FRANK JR.
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	CHARLES F., JR.		MERION	HOWARD	MARY

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GORTON, ROBIN RONALD SANDRA	HAIRE, FLORENCE	HENDERSON, DAVID SHEILA	DOROTHY FRANK	BARBARA EDWARD	RONALD ROY
GOSSELIN, DUMONT MARION	HALL, FRANCES KEITH WILMA	HENRY, MABEL	JEAN LINDA MABEL	ELAINE GLENN LEONARD	WAYNE LASELL, BETTINA
GOULD, TERRY	HALLOCK, HAROLD JESSE LORRAINE	HICKEY, FLOSSIE HAROLD	MILDRED ROLAND WILLIAM	LUCILLE RITA RICHARD	PERRY LATHROP, ALAN
GOVE, EARL, JR. ELEANOR JENNIE	MILDRED PAUL	HIER, AGNES FRANKLIN	JAMESON, DORIS FRANK	ROBERT ROBERTA SHARON	ALICE BRENDA BROWN BRENDA BUSHEY
LEAH MARY	HALNON, LEONARD, SR. MARYANN PATRICK	FRANKLIN, 2ND PATRICIA WANDA	JEFFERS, DANIEL FRANCES	KING, PATRICIA	CHARLES CLAIRE C.
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LOIS M. VICTORIA	HANCE, DONNA PAUL	HINES, ALICE JAMES	JETTE, MARION PAUL	KRASNER, BARBARA	HELEN F. HELEN P.
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LEONARD	MARCELLE,	MARGARET	WINSTON	ALBERT	REGINA
LIBERTY,	EVELYN	MELCHIOR,	NORTON,	PERKINS,	ROBERT
MARION	GARY	LOIS	ALTA	ARDELLE	SCOTT
MICHAEL	LINDA	MERRILL,	DALE	EDWIN	QUAGLINO,
PATRICIA	ROBERT	ANNIE	SYLVIA	LOCKIE	LOUIS
LINCOLN,	MARCHANT,	DAVID S.	THAIS	THEODORE	SADIE
ROBERT	MARIE	KRISTINA	OBER,	PERLEE,	QUESNEL,
LIPPERT,	MARSHALL,	MITCHEL,	DOROTHY	BRUCE	LUMNIA
WILLIAM	CARY	JOANNE	O'BRYAN,	FAWN	RAILTON,
LITTLE,	CHARLES	MITCHELL,	CYNTHIA	HENRY	MARLES
PATRICK 2ND	MARTELL,	EMILE	FRANCES	JAMES	RICHARD
LIVINGSTON,	BARBARA	EVELYN	GUY	JUDIE	RATHBONE,
DIANE	ELI	MORALES,	MYRTLE	JUNA	LESLIE
HARRIET	HENRY	CHRISTINE	ROBERT	NANCY	RATHBUN,
KAREN	JANICE	MOORE,	ROBERT	PETER	ALLEN
PHILLIP	JULIETTE	CALVIN	O'CONNOR,	PERRY,	EDSON
PHILLIP N.	LINDA	ISADORA	FRANCES	DAVID	HELEN
LOCKWOOD,	LYLE	PAMELA	O'DETT,	JOANNE	HENRY
ROBERT	MABEL	MORDECAI,	HARLEY	PERYEA,	JILL
LORD,	MAE	ANNE	OLIVO,	CHARLENE	ROSALIE
EDWARD	ROGER	MORGAN,	PETER	FRANK	RED,
ESTHER	SANDRA	ABEL	SANDRA	PETTERSEN,	BEVERLY
JOSEPH	SHARON	CRAIG	O'NEILL,	FREDERICK 3RD	REIMERS,
JOSEPH L.	MARTIN,	DAYTON	ELIZABETH	PHILLIPS,	ALICE
PAMELA	CLARA	ELLIOTT	WILLIAM	EARL	HENRY
LOSSMAN,	MAX	FLORENCE	ORVIS,	EDWARD	LYNN
RACHEL	RAY	JOYCE	AGNES	MARGARET	REYNOLDS,
WILLIAM	MASON,	JUDITH	DANIEL	SUSIE	BEULAH
LOUGEE,	ALICE	LESLIE	JESSE	PIASECKI,	ILA
GORDON	WALLACE	MAGGIE	LUCILLE	CHARLES	JEFFREY
RUTH	MASTALOS,	THOMAS	NANCY	LINDA	LEIGH
LOVELL,	EVA	VELMA	OTTO	PIERCE,	SHERRY
FRANCES	MASSA,	MORRILL,	PATRICIA	CAROL	RHEAUME,
LEVERETT	ELAINE	SHIRLEY	PAULINE	DIANE	CONSTANCE
LUCIA,	MASSE,	MORRISEY,	RALPH	WARNER	KENNETH
GEORGE	CLAUDIA	JAMES	SHERMAN	WILLIAM	LEWIS
JAMES	MERRILL	MARY	OWEN,	PILON,	LORETTA
JOHN	MAYER,	MORRISON,	BRENDA	KAREN	RIBA,
KATHY	JOSEPH	CHARLES	CLARENCE	MARION	L. RONALD
KENNETH	VERONICA	VIOLA	CLAUDE	THEODORE	RICHARDSON,
LARRY	MAXFIELD,	MURPHY,	MARGARET	THEODORE, JR.	WALLACE
MARGARET	CATHERINE	SANDRA	RUTH	PITKIN,	RICKETTS,
MARJORIE	MCAULEY,	SANDRA LEE	WINFIELD	LUTHER	ELIZABETH
NOBLE	FLORENCE	TANIS	PAINE,	PHYLLIS	RIVERS,
ROBERT	MCCORMICK,	WILLIAM	ALICE	PLACE,	BARBARA
LUTTON,	DIANA	MURRAY,	PALMER,	ANNA	CHARLES
MARION	DONALD, JR.	JUDITH	ANNA	PORWITZKY,	GLADYS
LYLIS,	DONALD, SR.	MARION	DOROTHY	THOMAS	JAMES
THEODORE, JR.	EARL	MYRICK,	GRAHAM	WENDY	LINDA
LYON,	ELLEN	ANNE	GUY	POWELL,	LORI
DOROTHY	ROBERT	SCOTT	JEAN	ALAN	RUTH
MACHIA,	RUTH	NAYLOR,	VIRGINIA A.	CHARLES	WILLIAM
CHARLES	MCDONOUGH,	LARRY	PALMORE,	FRED	ROBERTS,
GWENDOLYN	ARTHUR	NORENE	JAMES E.	PRATT,	ARTHUR
MACNEILL,	INEZ	NEIL,	JENNIE	JOANNE	ROBIDOUX,
MARJORIE	MCDOWELL,	CAROLYN	PANDIANI,	PRESCOTT,	ALFRED
MAHANNAH,	FRANCIS	PAUL	JOHN	ROBIN	JOAN
CARL	MCENTEE,	NELSON,	LESLIE	REED	JOSEPH
MAHER,	GRACE	CARL	PAPEDEMAS,	REED	LEO
BETTY	RACHEL	CHARLOTTE	NANCY	VIRGINIA	ORA
MALONEY,	MCEVOY,	EBBA	PAQUETTE,	PRICE,	THERESA
BARBARA	JOAN	NEIL	ANNE	DAVID	ROBINSON,
DENNIS	JOHN	PETER A.	EMILE	JOHN	PHYLLIS
MALZAC,	MCINTYRE,	PETER 2ND	MARJORIE	PRIME,	ROCHFORD,
LINDA	ALBERTA	P. JAMES	PARENT,	ANNETTE	DAVID
MANILA,	WILLIAM	SANDRA	ALICE	ARTHUR	SHARON
FRANK	MCKINNON,	NEWTON,	PARTRIDGE,	BARBARA	ROCK,
RUTH	ALLEN	WALLACE	RENIA	WELDON	CORA
MANLEY,	IRENE	NICHOLS,	RICHARD	PROUTY,	ROCKWELL,
IRA	MAE	HAROLD	PATERSON,	BETTY	BARBARA
MARJORIE	MEADER,	ROBERT	DEBORAH	RICHARD	KATHERINE
MANNING,	CHARLES	NOLLETTE,	PEABODY,	PROVONCHA,	ROCKWOOD,
VINCENT	CHESTER	GENE	JAMES	ALBIA	ARLIENE
	MARY	VICKI	MARY	LOIS	BRENDA
	MENARD,	NORRIS,	PEAKE,	PURINTON,	CHRISTOPHER
	CATHERINE	DAVID	PEVERIL	CRAIG	CHRIS
	CECILE	FLORA	PECOR,	DAVID	EVA
	RUSSELL	GLENN	PELLEGRINI,	ELIHU	GEORGE
			LUCY	ELSIE	PATRICIA
				GLADYS	

STEPHANIE	ROSAMOND	MARILYN	JOAN	WARREN,	WILSON,
ROLLINS,	SUSAN	MYRA	OLIVE	JANET	ANDON
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WINIFRED J.	ALFRED	ROBERT CLARK	THOMPSON,	WASLEY,	WISELL,
ROOT,	CARL	SALLY	BEATRICE	AMANDA	ALICE
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KIM	SUSAN	SUZANNE	WARREN G.	KENNETH	PETER
KIRK	SHERWIN,	STOCK,	TIERNEY,	WEDGE,	ROBERT
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LEONARD	ARNELL	STOCKES,	CALVIN	MICHAEL	THOMAS
LINDA	EVELYN	WAYNE	JACQUELINE	REGINALD	WILLIAM
ROSE,	JOHN	STORM,	JOHANNA	WELCH,	WITHINGTON,
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RICHARD	CAROL	DEWEY	TILLBERG,	MADELINE	DENISE
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GARY	JAMES	MARION	ERNEST	CRAIG	GREG
RYAN,	NANCY	MATILDA	TRUDO,	KENNETH	LORRAINE
EDWARD	SLATOR,	PAULINE	DOROTHY	ROSALIND	YAGER,
PATRICIA	LAVERNE	PHILLIP	TUCKER,	VIVIAN	KAREN
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PAUL	DORIS	BARBARA	GEORGE	WHEELOCK,	HOWARD
SARGENT,	EILEEN	SVRCEK,	LAVENIA	CAROLYN	ROSALIE
BEULAH	GEOFFREY	PATRICIA	TUTTLE,	RODNEY	VALERIE
DONNA	GEORGE	STEPHEN	DEBORAH	WHELAN,	
LINDA	GRACE	WILLIAM	TYLER,	MARGARET	
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STANLEY	GRETA	JOHN	GERTRUDE	BEATRICE	
THEODORE	HELEN	SWANSON,	PATRICK	BETTY	
SCRIBNER,	JOHN	ENIAR	R. LEO	WHITE,	
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CRAIG	LEWIS	SWEENEY,	GARY	EDWARD	
GERALD	LEWIS R.	IRENE	URANG,	ESTHER	
ELETA	LEWIS 3RD	HAROLD	TIM JOY	LORI	
SERAFIN,	LINDSEY	SWIER,	VALENTINE,	MARGARET	
DAVID	RICHARD	EUGENE	BERNARD	OLIVIA	
LINDA	RICHARD	NAOMI	DANIEL	PATRICIA	
SESSA,	RUTHERFORD	TANNER,	ESTHER	RALPH	
MARY	SHEILA	DALE	VAUGHN,	WILLIAM	
SEVERSON,	SUSAN	JOYCE	DONALD	WHITESIDE,	
JOYCE	SORRELL,	LAWRENCE	VINCENT,	SAMUEL	
OSCAR	LINDA	TATRO,	FLETCHER, JR.	WHITNEY,	
SHACKETT,	SPAULDING,	BARBARA	FLETCHER, SR.	LINDA	
RITA	CARROLL	ELLA	GRETA	WHITTEMORE,	
SHADRICK,	CLAUDE	ETTA	MILDRED	BESSIE	
MARGARET	MARGARET	FRANKLIN	RONALD	WILLIAMS,	
WAYNE	SPEAR,	GENEVIEVE	RUTH	ANDREW	
SHARPE,	RUBY	LLOYD	VERA	CHESTER	
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EDWARD	EDITH	LYDIA	VULEY,	WILLIAMSON,	
GEORGE	JAMES	RICHARD	ARTHUR	ELEANOR	
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